



WP CrL.(MD) NO. 1169 of 2026

BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED: 26-02-2026

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THE HONOURABLE MRS JUSTICE S.SRIMATHY

WP CrL.(MD) NO. 1169 of 2026

and W.M.P(MD)No.301 of 2026

P.Mathivanan Inbaraj

Petitioner(s)

Vs

1. The Commissioner of Police,
Madurai City, Madurai.
2. The Inspector Of Police
Thiruppalai Police Station,
Narayanapuram,
Madurai 625 014.
3. The Tahsildar,
Madurai North,
Madurai.
4. The Revenue Divisional Officer
Madurai.
5. The Bishop/Chairman,
Diocese of Madurai-Ramnad,
CSI, AVH Building H4,
162 East Veli Street,
Madurai 625 001.

Respondent(s)



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For Petitioner(s):

M/s.M.Venkatesh

For Respondent(s):

Mr.A.S.Abul Kalaam Azad,
Government Advocate (crl. Side), for R-1 & R-2

Mr.M. Muthumanikkam,
Government Advocate (civil side), for R-3 & R-4

Mr.M. Rajaraman, for R-5

Prayer: To issue a Writ of Mandamus directing the respondents 1 and 2 to provide adequate police protection and take necessary action against the interference of the 5th respondent and his men in the day to day administration and conduct the service of St.Peters Church, Thiruppalai, Madurai District by the duly elected Committee represented by its Secretary .

ORDER

This writ petition has been filed seeking issuance of a Writ of Mandamus directing respondents 1 and 2 to provide adequate police protection and to take necessary action against the interference of the 5th respondent and his men in the day-to-day administration and conduct of services at St. Peter's Church, Thiruppalai, Madurai District, by the duly elected Committee represented by its Secretary.

2. According to the petitioner, there is an MOU dated 04.03.2017, wherein, under Clause 7, the Bishop may appoint a Priest from the list of three



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persons circulated by the Thiruppalai Church. As on date, the existing Priest resigned on 13.02.2026. The Bishop has appointed one George Blazey as the Priest of the petitioner Church. Since it is only an ad hoc arrangement, and in order to enable the Church to function properly without any law and order issues, this Court directs the members of the Church, namely:

2. J. ரீட்டா ஜூலியட்
3. G. குளோரி ஒளிவு
4. D. அம்புரோஸ் நிக்சன்
5. S. இம்மானுவேல் ஜேசன் சாலமோன்
6. E. எமிமாள் விக்டோரியா
7. D. முத்துச் செழியன்
8. V.J. மகேஸ்
9. A. அருள் ஆனந்த்
10. W. ரூபன் பிராங்க்ளின்
11. K.S.தேவதாசன்
12. N. ஞானக் கண்
13. K. சாம்ராஜ்
14. M. அமிர்தராஜ்
15. D.ராஜன்

to circulate a list of three persons to the Bishop, then the Bishop in turn shall select one person from the list and appoint a priest.



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3. To make it clear at the cost of repetition, except Mathivanan Inbaraj, the others shall circulate a list of three names for appointment as Priest. Upon receipt of the list, the Bishop may select any one of the three and appoint him as Priest.

4. This adhoc arrangement is made only to ensure that the Church functions smoothly without any law and order issues or clashes between the groups.

5. Insofar as the rights of all parties are concerned, they are at liberty to approach the appropriate forum and seek their remedies.

6. With these directions, this writ petition is disposed of. No Costs. Consequently, connected miscellaneous petition is also closed.

26-02-2026

KSA

Note : Issue a copy of order on 02.03.2026



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3. The Tahsildar,
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Madurai.
4. The Revenue Divisional Officer
Madurai.
5. The Bishop/Chairman,
Diocese of Madurai-Ramnad,
CSI, AVH Building H4,
162 East Veli Street,
Madurai 625 001.
6. The Additional Public Prosecutor,
Madurai Bench of Madras High Court,
Madurai.



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S.SRIMATHY.J,

KSA

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26.02.2026