



W.P.Crl.(MD)No.1725 & 1742 of 2026

BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

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DATED : **27.03.2026**

CORAM:

THE HONOURABLE **MRS.JUSTICE L.VICTORIA GOWRI**

W.P.Crl.(MD)No.1725 & 1742 of 2026  
& W.M.P.Crl.(MD)No.418 of 2026

W.P.Crl.(MD)No.1725 of 2026:-

D.Agniveeranan

... Petitioner

Vs.

1. The Superintendent of Police,  
Madurai, Madurai District.
2. The Deputy Superintendent Of Police,  
Umachikulam Sub Division,  
Madurai District.
3. The Inspector of Police,  
Y.Othakadai Police Station,  
Madurai District.
4. The Revenue Division Officer,  
Madurai Cum Returning Officer,  
189, Madurai East  
Legislative Assembly Constituency.

... Respondents

(R4 is suo motu impleaded vide order of this Court dated 27.03.2026 in WP.Crl.(MD)No.1725 of 2026.)

PRAYER : Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India for issuance of Writ of Mandamus, directing the respondents to grant permission to



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conduct the Panguni Uthira Thiru Vizhia on 31.03.2026 and 01.04.2026 for two days to celebrate the festival in Sri Malaisamy Temple which is situated in Y.Kodikulam Village, Y.Kodikulam Post, Madurai District, on the basis of the petitioner's representation dated 12.03.2026.

For Petitioner : Mr.M.Suresh

For Respondents : Mr.S.Ravi (R1 to R3)

Additional Public Prosecutor

Mr.C.Satheesh (R4)

Government Advocate (Civil)

W.P.Crl.(MD)No.1742 of 2026:-

1.V.P.Natarajan

2.A.Agini Veeranan

3.P.Bose

... Petitioners

Vs.

1. The District Collector,  
Madurai.

2. The Revenue Division Officer,  
Madurai Cum Returning Officer,  
189, Madurai East Legislative Assembly Constituency.

3. The Deputy Superintendent Of Police,  
Umachikulam Sub Division,  
Y.Othakadai, Madurai.

4. The Assistant Election Officer,  
Madurai East Taluk,  
Madurai.



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5. The Inspector of Police,  
Y.Othakadai Police Station,  
Madurai.

... Respondents

**PRAYER** : Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India for issuance of Writ of Certiorarified Mandamus calling for the records of the impugned proceedings of the 2<sup>nd</sup> respondent in Na.Ka.the.720/2026 dated 20.03.2026 and quash the same as illegal, arbitrary and without jurisdiction and consequential direct the official respondents to permit the petitioners the vilagers of Y.Kodikulam, 4 Karaikarars and the poosaries to perform the panguni uthiram on 01.04.2026 at the Malaisamy Temple in Y.Kodikulam Village of Madurai East Taluk and direct the respondent police provided adequate prosecution.

For Petitioner : Mr.H.Lakshmi Shankar

For Respondents : Mr.S.Ravi (R3 & R5)

Additional Public Prosecutor

Mr.C.Satheesh (R1, R2 & R4)

Government Advocate (Civil)

### **COMMON ORDER**

WMP Crl.(MD)No.418 of 2026 filed seeking permission of this Court to file a single writ petition is ordered.

2. WP Crl.(MD)No.1725 of 2026 has been filed by one D.Agniveeranan, seeking for a direction to the respondents to grant permission to conduct the



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Panguni Uthira Thiruvizha on 31.03.2026 and 01.04.2026 to celebrate the festival in Sri Malaisamy Temple situated in Y.Kodikulam Village, Y.Kodikulam Post, Madurai District, on the basis of the petitioner's representation dated 12.03.2026.

3. WP Crl.(MD)No.1742 of 2026 has been filed by one V.P.Natarajan and two others, seeking to quash the impugned proceedings of the 2<sup>nd</sup> respondent in Na.Ka.the.720/2026 dated 20.03.2026, and also to direct the official respondents to permit the petitioners the villagers of Y.Kodikulam, 4 Karaikarars and the poosaries to perform the panguni uthiram on 01.04.2026 in the aforesaid same temple.

4. The petitioner in WP Crl.(MD)No.1725 of 2026, namely, D.Agniveeranan, belongs to the second karai, namely Kannan Kootam of the said temple Y.Kodikulam village. It is claimed that four groups referred as Karuppan Kootam, Kannan Kootam, Nallakaruppan Kootam, and Kodiyan Kootam belong to Y.Kodikulam village. In the eve of the festival of Panguni Utthiram, every year festival would be conducted in Sri Malaisamy Temple situated in Y.Kodikulam Village. However, the group headed by D.Agniveeranan belonging to Kannan Kootam has raised objection for the



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other three groups from conducting Panguni Utthiram festival in Sri Malaisamy Temple situated in Y.Kodikulam Village, as a result of which, the Revenue Division Officer, Madurai Cum Returning Officer, 189, Madurai East Legislative Assembly Constituency has passed the impugned order refusing permission to the Karuppan Kootam, Nallakaruppan Kootam, and Kodiyan Kootam from conducting the festival as required by them.

5. The learned counsel appearing for the petitioner in WP Crl.(MD)No. 1725 of 2026, submitted that for the past few years, the second karai, namely, Kannan Kootam, is permitted to conduct the Panguni Utthiram festival, facilitating the participation of the people from all the communities, who are residing in Y.Kodikulam Village. Only the first karai poosari, alone is permitted to perform the charamani ritual and the poosaries from other groups are prevented from performing the said charamani. Hence, there is an indifference between them.

6. However, the learned counsel appearing for the petitioners in WP Crl. (MD)No.1742 of 2026, representing the other three Kootams, namely, Karuppan Kootam, Nallakaruppan Kootam and Kodiyan Kootam, categorically contended that there is no indifference between any of these groups, and infact,



they want all the people belonging to these four groups, along with the people of other community, who are residing in Y.Kodikulam Village, to participate in the Panguni Uthiram festival in Sri Malaisamy Temple. Only because of the unnecessary claim of the second karai, namely, Kannan Koottam, now for the first time, the respondents have denied permission for conduct of Panguni Uthiram.

7. The learned Additional Public Prosecutor appearing for the respondent police submitted that, for the purpose of conducting Panguni Uthiram, the festival would commence with the initiation of Mandala Pooja, followed by a 48-days fasting observance by the villagers, culminating in the celebration of Panguni Uthiram. However, due to the stiff opposition shown by the second karai, namely, Kannan Koottam, headed by D.Agniveeranan, the Revenue Division Officer, Madurai Cum Returning Officer, 189, Madurai East Legislative Assembly Constituency was compelled to conduct a peace committee between all these four koottams, where a proper resolution could not be arrived at, and hence the concerned thasildar refused to give permission to conduct mandala pooja. However, violating the same, the second karai, namely Kannan Koottam, had conducted the said pooja, pursuant to which an FIR in Crime No.102 of 2026 was also registered on 20.03.2026, against them.



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8. Heard the learned counsel on either sides and carefully perused the materials available on record.

9. It is seen that the petitioner in WP Crl.(MD)No.1725 of 2026, namely, D.Agniveeranan, has raised certain new claims and rights over the subject temple, which is unheard of so far.

10. At this juncture, it is necessary to implead the Revenue Division Officer, Madurai Cum Returning Officer, 189, Madurai East Legislative Assembly Constituency in WP Crl.(MD)No.1725 of 2026, and accordingly, the Revenue Division Officer, Madurai Cum Returning Officer, 189, Madurai East Legislative Assembly Constituency is suo motu impleaded as the fourth respondent in WP Crl.(MD)No.1725 of 2026. Registry is directed to carry out necessary amendment.

11. Considering the facts and circumstances of this case, and also taking into account the forthcoming festival of the villagers, the Revenue Division Officer, Madurai Cum Returning Officer, 189, Madurai East Legislative Assembly Constituency is directed to forthwith conduct a peace committee on



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**28.03.2026** facilitating the petitioners in both petitions and also all the representatives of the four karaidhars, namely, Karuppan Kootam, Kannan Kootam, Nallakaruppan Kootam, and Kodiyan Kootam, to participate in the same and ensure that Panguni Uthiram festival is conducted, facilitating the participation of all the four karaidars, and their family members, and also the people hailing from all the community residing in Y.Kodikulam Village at Madurai.

12. It is made clear that petitioner in WP Crl.(MD)No.1725 of 2026, namely, D.Agniveeranan, will not claim any specific rights over any specific rituals, which is being conducted in Sri Malaisamy temple at Y.Kodikulam Village. If at all he has any grievance, he is at liberty to file a separate civil suit before appropriate civil court for the said purpose.

13. With the above directions, these writ petitions are disposed of.

**27.03.2026**

NCC : Yes / No  
Index : Yes / No  
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Note: Issue order copy on **27.03.2026**.



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**TO:-**

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1. The Superintendent of Police,  
Madurai, Madurai District.
2. The Deputy Superintendent Of Police,  
Umachikulam Sub Division,  
Madurai District.
3. The Inspector of Police,  
Y.Othakadai Police Station,  
Madurai District.
4. The Assistant Election Officer,  
Madurai East Taluk,  
Madurai.
5. The Revenue Division Officer,  
Madurai Cum Returning Officer,  
189, Madurai East  
Legislative Assembly Constituency.
6. The Additional Public Prosecutor,  
Madurai Bench of Madras High Court,  
Madurai.



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**L.VICTORIA GOWRI, J.**

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Common Order made in  
W.P.Crl.(MD)No.1725 & 1742 of 2026

Dated  
27.03.2026