



BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED : 28.01.2020

CORAM:

**THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE M.DURAI SWAMY
and
THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE T.RAVINDRAN**

W.P. (MD) No.1651 of 2020

and

W.M.P. (MD) Nos.1375, 1378 & 1381 of 2020

M.Saravanan

... Petitioner

-vs-

- 1.The Union of India
Rep.by its Secretary
Ministry of Culture
New Delhi
- 2.The State of Tamil Nadu
Rep.by its Secretary
Department of Hindu Religious
and Charitable Endowments
Fort St.George, Chennai
- 3.The Archaeological Survey of India
Rep.by its Director General
24, Tilak Marg
New Delhi-110 001
- 4.The Superintending Archaeologist
The Archaeological Survey of India
Chennai Circle
Fort St.George, Chennai
- 5.The District Collector
Office of the District Collector
Thanjavur District
- 6.The Hindu Religious and Charitable
Endowments Department
Rep.by its Commissioner
119, Uthamar Gandhi Saalai
Nungambakkam
Chennai



7.The Commissioner of Archaeology
Department of Archaeology
Thanjavur Sub Circle
Big Temple Complex
Thanjavur

8.The Conservation Assistant
Archaeological Survey of India
Thanjavur Sub Circle
Big Temple Complex
Thanjavur

9.Thanjavur Aranmanai Devasthanam
Rep.by its Assistant Commissioner /
Executive Officer
Thanjavur Aranmanai Devasthanam
No.1221, West Main Street
Thanjavur-613 009

... Respondents

PRAYER: Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, to issue a writ of certiorari to call for the records pertaining to the impugned order in Na.Ka.No.297/2019/A2 dated 25.12.2019 on the file of the Respondent No.8 and quash the same as illegal.

For Petitioner : Mr.G.Prabhu Rajadurai
for Mr.T.Aswin Rajasimman

For Respondents : Mr.M.Karunanidhi for R1, R3, R4, R7 & R8

Mr.V.R.Shanmuganathan
Special Government Pleader for R2, R5 & R6

Mr.Chandrasekaran for R9

O R D E R

[Order of the Court was made by M.DURAISWAMY, J.]

The petitioner has filed the above writ petition as a public interest litigation to issue a writ of certiorari to call for the records pertaining to the impugned order, dated 25.12.2019, on the file of the eighth respondent, and to quash the same.

2. The petitioner contended that the Authorities are conducting Consecration (Kumbabishekam) of the ninth respondent - Temple, without obtaining permission from the Archaeological Survey of India.



3. However, Mr.M.Karunanithi, learned counsel who takes notice for the respondents 1, 3, 4, 7 and 8, submitted that Archaeological Survey of India has granted permission for conducting Consecration (Kumbabishekam) of the ninth respondent - Temple and only after obtaining permission from them, the Authorities are performing the Consecration in respect of the said Temple and the learned counsel has also produced a copy of the permission granted to the ninth respondent for conducting the Consecration.

4. In view of the production of the documents by the learned counsel appearing for the respondents 1, 3, 4, 7 and 8, the learned counsel appearing for the petitioner submitted that the writ petition may be closed.

5. Recording the submissions made by the learned counsel on either side, since the Authorities are performing the Consecration only after obtaining permission from the Archaeological Survey of India, the writ petition is closed. No costs. Consequently, connected miscellaneous petitions are closed.

Sd/-

Assistant Registrar (Writs)

// True Copy //

/ /2020

Sub Assistant Registrar(CS)

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To:

1.The Secretary,
Union of India
Ministry of Culture
New Delhi

2.The Secretary
State of Tamil Nadu
Department of Hindu Religious
and Charitable Endowments
Fort St.George, Chennai

3.The Director General,
Archaeological Survey of India
24, Tilak Marg
New Delhi-110 001



4.The Superintending Archaeologist
The Archaeological Survey of India
Chennai Circle
Fort St.George, Chennai

5.The District Collector
Office of the District Collector
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6.The Commissioner,
Hindu Religious and Charitable
Endowments Department
119, Uthamar Gandhi Saalai
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+1 CC to M/s.M.KARUNANITHI, Advocate (SR-3464[F] dated 28/01/2020)

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