



IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 24-02-2026

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THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE D.BHARATHA CHAKRAVARTHY

W.P.No.7516 of 2026

&

W.M.P.Nos.8098 & 8099 of 2026

G.Sankar,
S/o. A. Ganesan,
No.20, Suriamman Koil Street,
VOC Nagar, Pammal,
Chennai-600 075.

... Petitioner
Vs

1. The Commissioner,
The Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Department,
No.119, Uthamar Gandhi Salai,
Nungambakkam,
Chennai-600 034.

2.The Joint Commissioner,
The Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowment Department,
No.119, Uthamar Gandhi Salai,
Nungambakkam, Chennai-600 034.

3.The Executive Officer,
Arulmigu Ranganatha Perumal Thirukovil,
Thiruneermalai,
Chennai-600 044.

... Respondents

Prayer: Writ Petition has been filed under Article 226 of Constitution of India, to issue a Writ of Certiorari, calling for the records relating to the order dated 19.1.2026 in R.P.No.407 of 2025 D2 of the 1st respondent confirming the order dated 19.8.2025 in M.P.No.219 of 2025 of the 2nd respondent and quash the same.



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W.P.No.7516 of 2



For Petitioner: M/s.AR.L.Gandhimathi, Senior Counsel
Assisted by Mr.L.Palani Muthu

For Respondents: Mr.N.R.R.Arun Natarajan
Special Government Pleader, for
R1 to R3

ORDER

The writ petition is filed challenging the order passed in R.P.No.407 of 2025, dated 19.01.2026 in M.P.No.219 of 2025, dated 19.08.2025.

2. Upon hearing the Learned Senior Counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioner and upon perusing the material records of the case, the grievance of the petitioner is that they are conducting religious organization that conducts bhajans and other rituals in the name and style '*Thirupanazhwar Bajanai Madam*' and they were using the temple's property, admeasuring 4900 sq.ft., along with the existing structure thereon. When the structure became old and dilapidated, they gave a request to the authorities to put up a new structure on their cost so that they can use the property for the said purposes. Accordingly, permission was granted to them on 17.04.2017 for putting up a new building at the costs of Rs.34,20,000/-. Pursuant thereto, they had put up and has been using the building. However, alleging that, as per the permission, they did not formally handover the building to the Temple, the petitioner was treated as an



encroacher and the order was passed in M.P.No.219 of 2025 evicting the petitioner from the building.

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3. Aggrieved by the same, the petitioner filed a revision, the said order was confirmed and therefore, the petitioner is before this Court.

4. The Learned Senior Counsel for the petitioner would submit that the petitioners are not commercially exploiting or generating any revenue from and out of the building. They have generously donated the building in favour of the Temple and willing to handover the building formally and provided if they are permitted to use the building for their purposes. She would submit that the days on which the *Utsavam* and other festivals are given in paragraph No.3 in the tabular column.

5. Per contra, Mr.N.R.R.Arun Natarajan, Learned Special Government Pleader, taking notice on behalf of the respondents, would point out to the Condition No.10 of the order granting permission dated 17.04.2017. The petitioner ought to have handed over the building to the Temple formally. However, without doing so, since they continued the occupation, the orders have been passed. He would further submit that even now, if the building is formally handed over, thereafter for the purposes of the petitioner, if they give a



request in advance, the Executive Officer will consider and grant permission to use the premises for their purposes of conducting the *Bajanai* and other *Utsavams*.

6. I have considered the rival submissions made on either side and perused the material records of the case.

7. Now, the Learned Senior Counsel for the petitioner submits that the building will be formally handed over to the temple, the same can be handed over on condition that the petitioner and the '*Sabha*' will be permitted to do their *Bajanai*, *Utsavam* and other rituals on the requisite days. Accordingly, let the building be formally handed over, along with the web copy of this order to the Executive Officer of the Temple on 04.03.2026. Thereafter, the building shall be in the possession of the Executive Officer of the Temple. The petitioner pleads they need the building on the following days, when they are conducting the festival and it is essential to extract the tabular column, which is contained in paragraph No.3 of the writ petition, which reads as under:



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1.	Padi Utsavam	2 days
2.	Nirvanna Perumal Brahmotsavam	11 days
3.	Ranganatha Perumal Brahmotsavam	11 days
4.	Rathasapthami	2 days
5.	Margazhi Masam (Bhajanai)	30 days
6.	Purattasi Saturdays	5 weeks
7.	Ekadesil	24 days
8.	Vaikunta Ekadesi	2 days
9.	Pagal Paththu - Ra Paththu	11 days
10.	Alwargal Utsavam	2 days
11.	Gajendra Moksham	2 days
12.	Krishna Jayanthi	2 days
13.	Rama Navami	2 days

8. On the aforesaid days, whenever the petitioner has to use the building, they can request the Executive Officer in writing two days prior to their need and on the days, let the Executive Officer open the building and permit the occupation and use and after the *Bajanai*, *Utsavam* and other rituals are the festival is over, the petitioners will vacate and hand over the keys and the property will be again kept under lock and key of the Executive Officer. On the days in which the petitioner/*Bajanai madam* does not need the building. The building can also be put to other pious purposes/uses by the Executive Officer/Temple. Even time permission is given by the Executive Officer without any further delay or failure, the key should be handed over back to the Executive Officer of the Temple, after completion of the number of days for



which the keys are given.

9. With the above observations, this Writ Petition is disposed of. There shall be no order as to costs. Consequently, connected Miscellaneous Petitions are closed.

24-02-2026

Neutral Citation:No.
bsm

To,

1. The Commissioner,
The Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Department,
No.119, Uthamar Gandhi Salai,
Nungambakkam,
Chennai-600 034.

2.The Joint Commissioner,
The Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowment Department,
No.119, Uthamar Gandhi Salai,
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D.BHARATHA CHAKRAVARTHY, J.
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