



WEB COPY

WP No. 10855 of 2



IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 18-03-2026

CORAM

THE HON'BLE MR JUSTICE M.DHANDAPANI

W.P. No. 10855 of 2026

and W.M.P.Nos.11801 and 11805 of 2026

Vedaranyam Nagara Pattanamanai Kudiruppor
(Abubavatharar) Nala Sangam, Vedaranyam,
Rep by its Secretary,
G.Sankaravadivel,
S/o.T.Gopalasamy Pillai,
Door No.50/19, South Street,
Vedaranyam Town and Taluk,
Nagapattinam District.

..Petitioner(s)

Vs

1. The Secretary to the Government
Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments,
Fort St.George, Chennai-600 009.
2. The Secretary to the Government
Revenue Department,
Fort St.George, Chennai-600 009.
3. The Commissioner for Land Administration
Ezhilagam, Chennai- 600 006.
4. The Settlement Officer
(Inam Abolition and Conversion into Ryotwari),
Land Revenue Scheme Officer,
Ezhilagam,Chepauk,
Chennai- 600 006.



5. The Commissioner
Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments,
Uthamar Gandhi Salai,
Nungambakkam,
Chennai-034.

6. The District Collector
Office of the Collectorate,
Nagapattinam,
Nagappatinam District.

7. The Tahsildar
Vedaranyam Taluk,
Vedaranyam Town and Taluk,
Nagappatinam District.

8. The Joint Commissioner
Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments,
Nagappatinam,
Nagappatinam District.

9. The Executive Officer
Vedaranyeswaraswamy Devasdanam,
Vedaranayam Town and Taluk,
Nagappatinam District.

..Respondent(s)

PRAYER: The Writ Petition is filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India for the issuance of a Writ of Certiorarified Mandamus to call for the records in relates to the order passed by the 4th respondent in Na.Ka.Oo.2/3595/ 2022, dated 9.1.2026, and quash the same and consequently directing the respondents to issue absolute pattas to the members of the petitioners



Association by extending their buildings stands in Vedaranyam Pattanam Village, Vedaranyam Town and Taluk, Nagapattinam District.

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For Petitioner(s): Mr.V.Kasinatha Bharathi

For Respondent(s): Mr.N.R.Arun Natarajan
Special Government Pleader
for R1, R5 and R8

Mr. D. Ravichander
Special Government Pleader
for R2, R3, R4, R6 and R7

ORDER

The present Writ Petition has been filed seeking Writ of Certiorarified Mandamus to call for the records relating to the order passed by the 4th respondent in Na.Ka.Oo.2/ 3595/ 2022, dated 9.1.2026, and quash the same and consequently direct the respondents to issue absolute pattas to the members of the petitioners Association by extending their buildings situated in Vedaranyam Pattanam Village, Vedaranyam Town and Taluk, Nagapattinam District.

2. The learned counsel appearing for the petitioners submitted that the members of the petitioner are in occupation of land in Survey No.175/3A1A1A1A . Originally, the land was Ryothwari land, which was taken over by the Government under the provisions of the Tamil Nadu Inam Estates (Abolition and Conversion into Ryotwari) Act, 1963 (Act 26 of 1963). By virtue



of the said Act, the entire inam land was vested with the Government. However, the respondent Temple did not make any application for grant of Ryotwari patta in its name. Subsequently, certain individuals filed claim petitions before the Settlement Officer seeking Ryotwari patta, but, the patta was granted only in respect of the superstructure.

3. Thereafter, the very same individuals filed a Writ Petition before this Court seeking patta, which was allowed and the same was confirmed by the Division Bench in W.A.No.1372 of 1992 reported in **2003 – 1 – L.W. 663**. Following the same, one Uma and others submitted a claim petition dated 16.05.2022, relying upon the orders passed in W.P.No.5143 of 2012 and W.A.No.1743 of 2012. However, the same was rejected by the respondents. Challenging the same, the present Writ Petition has been filed.

4. The learned counsel for the petitioners further submitted that the patta has already been granted in favour of the petitioners in respect of the superstructure. However, no patta has been issued for the underlying land (*Adimantai*). The rejection of their application for issuance of patta for the land is unsustainable. Hence, he prayed for appropriate relief.



5. Per contra, the learned Special Government Pleader appearing for the respondents submitted that similarly placed persons had earlier filed Writ Petitions in W.P.Nos.30783 of 2018 and 3836 of 2024, which were dismissed by this Court on 04.06.2024 and 19.03.2024, respectively. Hence, the said orders have attained finality. Therefore, no interference is warranted with the impugned order.

6. It was further contended that if at the petitioners have any grievance, the appropriate remedy lies before the competent Civil Court as against the Temple and not under Article 226 of the Constitution of India. Moreover, the present Writ Petition has been filed by an Association and not by the individual aggrieved parties, which is not maintainable. Hence, he sought dismissal of the Writ Petition.

7. In view of the foregoing discussion and having regard to the fact that (i) the issue raised in the present Writ Petition is squarely covered by earlier orders of this Court, which have attained finality, (ii) the petitioners have an effective and efficacious alternative remedy before the competent Civil Court for adjudication of their rights over the subject property, and (iii) the present Writ Petition, having been filed by the Association and not by the individual



aggrieved parties, is not maintainable, this Court is not inclined to interfere with the impugned order passed by the 4th respondent.

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8. Accordingly, this Writ Petition stands dismissed. However, liberty is granted to the individual members of the petitioner Association to work out their remedies before the competent forum in the manner known to law. There shall be no order as to costs. Consequently, connected Miscellaneous Petitions are closed.

18-03-2026

Index: Yes/No
Speaking/Non-speaking order
Neutral Citation: Yes/No

Asi

To

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