



W.P.(MD) No.8566 of 2026

BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

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DATED : 30.03.2026

CORAM

THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE D.BHARATHA CHAKRAVARTHY

W.P.(MD) No.8566 of 2026

Sathaiah

... Petitioner

Vs.

- 1.The Joint Commissioner,
Hindu Religious and Charitable
Endowment Department,
Thanjavur, Thanjavur District.
- 2.The Assistant Commissioner,
Hindu Religious and Charitable
Endowment Department,
Pudukkottai, Pudukkottai District.
- 3.The Inspector,
Hindu Religious and Charitable
Endowment Department,
Aranthangi Taluk,
Pudukkottai District.
- 4.The Tahsildar,
Aranthangi Taluk Office,
Aranthangi Taluk,
Pudukkottai District.
- 5.The Inspector of Police,
Nagudi Police Station,
Nagudi, Aranthangi Taluk,
Pudukkottai District.



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6.Manngudi

7.Selvaraj

8.Nadarajan

9.Ganeshan

... Respondents

Prayer : Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, for issuance of a Writ of Mandamus directing the official respondents to take steps to protect the temple hundiya and temple money of Arulmighu Rajanarayana Perumal and Ariyanayagi Amman situate at Vallambakadu Village, Arasarkulam Thenpathi, Aranthangi Taluk, Pudukkottai District from the private respondents and further directing to conduct the festival without any special right to anybody by considering the petitioner's representation dated 24.03.2026.

For Petitioner : Mr.R.Paranjothi
M/s.KBS Law Office

For R1 to R4 : Mr.M.Sarangam
Additional Government Pleader

For R5 : Mr.K.Gnanasekaran
Government Advocate (Crl. Side)

ORDER

This Writ Petition is filed for a mandamus directing the official respondents to take steps to protect the temple hundiya and temple funds of Arulmighu Rajanarayana Perumal and Ariyanayagi Amman Temple



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situated at Vallambakadu Village, Arasarkulam Thenpathi, Aranthangi Taluk, Pudukkottai District, from the private respondents and further directing them to conduct the festival without conferring any special right on anybody, by considering the petitioner's representation dated 24.03.2026.

2. Upon hearing the learned counsel for the petitioner and perusing the material records of the case, the grievance of the petitioner is that he has already made a representation with reference to the village temple. The H.R. & C.E. Department has not taken any action to bring the temple under its control and the private respondents are dealing with the temple funds without proper accounting and other procedures.

3. When the matter came up for hearing, the learned Additional Government Pleader appearing for the first to fourth respondents, on instructions, would submit that the matter was earlier the subject matter of a Peace Committee Meeting before the Revenue Divisional Officer, before whom both sides, classified as 'A' party and 'B' party, undertook that they would not indulge in opening the hundiya, etc. The enquiry is also underway.



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WEB COPY 4. I have considered the rival submissions made on either side and perused material records of the case.

5. As far as the proceedings before the Revenue Divisional Officer are concerned, the same relate to the upkeep of law and order. Regular orders with reference to the temple have to be passed by the first respondent. Therefore, when the matter is said to be pending enquiry before the first respondent, the first respondent shall proceed to complete the enquiry and pass orders with reference to the upkeep of the hundiyaal and all other aspects of the temple in that regard.

6. It is made clear that this Writ Petition is disposed of at the admission stage and this Court is not commenting on any of the allegations made by the petitioner on merits. No notice is issued to the private respondents. In view thereof, this Writ Petition is disposed of on the following terms:

- i. The first respondent shall continue the enquiry with reference to the affairs of Arulmighu Rajanarayana Perumal and



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Ariyanayagi Amman Temple situated at Vallambakadu Village, Arasarkulam Thenpathi, Aranthangi Taluk, Pudukkottai District.

- ii. Due notices to the petitioner as well as the private respondents and other interested parties shall be issued.
- iii. The first respondent shall pass orders with reference to the administration of the temple and appointment of trustees.
- iv. The administration of the properties of the temple, including the opening of the hundiya, etc., shall thereafter be governed by the orders passed by the first respondent in this regard.
- v. No costs.

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JEN

Neutral Citation : No

To

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3.The Inspector,
Hindu Religious and Charitable
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Aranthangi Taluk,
Pudukkottai District.

- 4.The Tahsildar,
Aranthangi Taluk Office,
Aranthangi Taluk,
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- 5.The Inspector of Police,
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D.BHARATHA CHAKRAVARTHY, J.

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