



IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 12-10-2026

CORAM

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THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE V. LAKSHMINARAYANAN

WP CrI. No. 1380 of 2026

CNR: {HCMA011293222026}

S.Vaithiyanathan
Hereditary Managing Dharmakartha,
Sri Veera Anjaneyar Swamy Temple, Rettanai
Village,
Tindivanam Taluk,
Villupuram District.
PIN 604 306.
Residing at
104/13, Golden Flats,
120 Feet Road Mogappair,
Anna Nagar Western Extn,
Chennai - 600 050.



Case QR

..Petitioner(s)

Vs

1. The District Collector
Villuoram District, Master Plan Complex,
Villupuram - 605 602.
2. The Deputy Inspector General of Police
Villupuram District, Master Plan Complex,
Villupuram - 605 602.
3. The Superintendent of Police,
Villupuram District, Master Plan Complex,
Villupuram - 605 602.
4. The Inspector of Police,
Periathatchur Police Station,
Periathatchur, Tindivana Taluk,
Villupuram District, PIN 605 651.
5. P.Saravanan
S/o.Perumal Gounder,
Mettu Street, Rettanai Village and Post,
Tindivanam Taluk, Villupuram District. PIN
604 306.



..Respondent(s)

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To issue a WRIT OF MANDAMUS or any other appropriate WRIT, Directions or Orders in the nature of a WRIT and for issuing a Direction or Order to the Respondents 1 to 4 to consider the Representation Dated 20.04.2026, to Remove and Open the illegal and Unauthorised Lock Put by the 5th Respondent P.Saravanan, to provide Police Protection to facilitate the Continued Performance of the Daily Poojas as per the Agama Sastras, allowing the Village Public and the Petitioner herein and Family Members to continue to offer Worships in the Sri Veera Anjaneya Swamy Temple, Situated in the Survey No.106/3 (Part) and Survey No.105/4 of Total Extent of 28 Cents in the Rettanai Village, Tindivanam Taluk, Villupuram District.

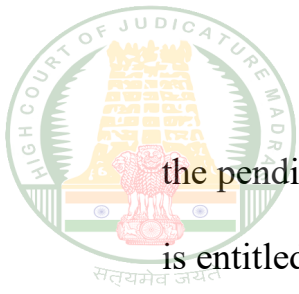
For Petitioner(s): M/s.N.Seshadri

For Respondent(s): Mr.S.Yogaraja Sekar,
Counsel for Government of Tamil Nadu
(CrI. Side) for R1 to R4
Ms.D.Kumaralingam for R5

ORDER

This Court has afforded police protection to the petitioner in W.P.CrI. No.1230 of 2025 by an order dated 12.10.2026. The grievance of the petitioner in this writ petition is that the fifth respondent had locked the temple and has prevented his access in the property.

2. Mr.D.Kumaralingam states that there is a dispute as to whether the petitioner is the Dharmakartha or whether the petitioner's family had in fact constructed the temple. These are all matters which have to be worked out in



the pending civil suit. As long as there is a decree in favour of the petitioner, he is entitled to claim that he is the Managing Dharmakarthha.

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3. Mr.Kumaralingam states that the fifth respondent has not locked the premises and the temple is kept open. He adds the temple is managed by the Rettanai Grama Devathaigal Trust. The Trust itself was created in 2022. The temple is pre-existing. This is the classic case of a grand daughter being the mother of her grand mother. When the Trust was formed in 2022, it is indeed a unique claim that it has been managing a temple, which was formed in 1985. As to how this Rettanai Trust took over the temple requires investigation.

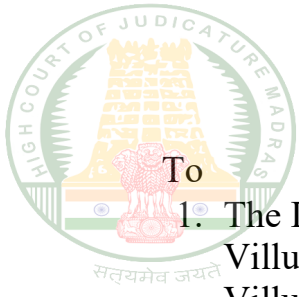
4. Since the police is affording protection in W.P.No.1230 of 2025, it shall permit the petitioner to break open the lock which has been put over the temple and replace the same with his own set of locks. The police will continue to maintain a vigil to ensure that in the event the petitioner's locks are broken, such mischief makers be whisked away and remanded to custody immediately. The petitioner shall keep the temple open and shall not prevent any worshipping public from coming into the temple and offering their prayers.

5. Post the matter on 26.10.2026.

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Index: Yes/No
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To

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