

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA AT ERNAKULAM
PRESENT
THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE DEVAN RAMACHANDRAN
&
THE HONOURABLE MRS. JUSTICE M.B. SNEHALATHA
Monday, the 16th day of February 2026 / 27th Magha, 1947
WP(CRL.) NO. 1421 OF 2025(S)

PETITIONER:

SANTON LAMA, AGED 38 YEARS, (AADHAR CARD NO. 7115 5502 6140),
S/O MR. SURAJ LAMA, NO. 9/4, SAIDHAM, BILESHIVALE,
HANUMANTHA NAGAR, DODDAGUBBI POST, BENGALURU, PIN - 560 077.

RESPONDENTS:

1. STATE OF KERALA, REPRESENTED BY THE CHIEF SECRETARY, GOVERNMENT OF KERALA, SECRETARIAT, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695 001.
2. ADDITIONAL CHIEF SECRETARY, IN CHARGE OF HOME DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT OF KERALA, SECRETARIAT, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695 001.
3. DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE, KERALA POLICE HEADQUARTERS, TRIVANDRUM, PIN - 695 010
4. THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, KOCHI CITY, ERNAKULAM, PIN - 682 018.
5. THE STATION HOUSE OFFICER, THRIKKAKARA POLICE STATION, THRIKKAKARA, ERNAKULAM, PIN - 682 021.
6. THE STATION HOUSE OFFICER, NEDUMBASSERY POLICE STATION, CIAL, ERNAKULAM, PIN - 683 111.
7. COCHIN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT LTD (CIAL), REPRESENTED BY ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR, NEDUMBASSERY, COCHIN, PIN - 683 111.
8. THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT MEDICAL COLLEGE HOSPITAL, KALAMASSERY, ERNAKULAM, PIN - 683 104.
- ADDITIONAL R9 & R10 IMPLEADED**
9. THE DIG, THE ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING UNIT (AHTU), THIRUVANANTHAPURAM RANGE, POLICE HEAD QUARTERS, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM - 695 010.
10. THE PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL JUSTICE, GOVERNMENT OF KERALA, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM - 695 001. ADDL.R9 & R10 ARE SUO MOTU IMPLEADED AS PER ORDER DATED 11/11/2025 IN WP(CRL.) 1421/2025.

P.T.O.

Writ petition (criminal) praying inter alia that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed along with the WP(Crl.) the High Court be pleased to direct the respondents 1-6 to produce Mr.Suraj Lama, the missing person in Ext P5 FIR and who was in custody of 5th respondent as evident from Ext P7 photograph before this Honourable Court.

This petition coming again on for admission upon perusing the petition and the affidavit filed in support of WP(Crl.), this Court's order dated 11/02/2026 and upon hearing the arguments of SMT. A.PARVATHI MENON, Advocate for the petitioner, SRI. B.S.SYAMANTHAK, GOVERNMENT PLEADER for R1 to R6 & R8, Addl.R9 & Addl.R10, SRI.S.SREEKUMAR (SENIOR ADVOCATE) along with SRI.HARIKRISHNAN S, Advocate for R7 and of SRI.V.RAMKUMAR NAMBIAR, AMICUS CURIAE, the court passed the following:

P.T.O.



DEVAN RAMACHANDRAN & M.B.SNEHALATHA, JJ.

W.P.(Crl) No.1421/2025

Dated this the 16th day of February, 2026

O R D E R

Devan Ramachandran, J.

We had passed an order on 11.02.2026 wherein, we had asked the Special Investigation Team (SIT) to be headed by the Commissioner of Police, Kochi.

2. Sri.B.S.Syamanthak – learned Government Pleader, submitted today that the SIT will be better served by the Deputy Inspector General of Police (DIG), Ernakulam Range, heading it.

3. We accede to the afore request of the learned Government Pleader since Smt.Parvathy Menon – learned counsel for the petitioner, also does not oppose it.

4. We, therefore, direct that our order dated 11.02.2026 will be read as the SIT to be headed by the DIG, Ernakulam Range. The first report by the SIT would, however, be made available within the time frame fixed therein.

WP(Crl)1421/25

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Post on 04.03.2026.

Sd/-

DEVAN RAMACHANDRAN, JUDGE

Sd/-

M.B.SNEHALATHA, JUDGE

RR

