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BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED: 02.03.2026

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THE HONOURABLE MR JUSTICE G.R.SWAMINATHAN

CONT P(MD) Nos.3594 & 3657 of 2025

in

W.P.(MD)Nos.32317 & 33197 of 2025

&

CONT P(MD)No.252 of 2026

in

W.P.(MD)No.32317 of 2025

In Cont P(MD)No.3594 of 2025 : -

Rama.Ravikumar

... Petitioner

Vs

1.K.J.Praveenkumar IAS,
District Collector, Madurai.

2.J.Loganathan IPS,
Commissioner of Police, Madurai City.

3.Yagna Narayanan, Executive Officer,
Arulmigu Subramania Swamy Temple,
Thirupparankundram,
Madurai.

.... Contemnors /
Respondents 1, 2 & 4

4.The Union Home Secretary,
Government of India, New Delhi.

... Respondent No.4

5.A.G.Inigo Divyan,
DCP (South), Madurai City.

... Respondent No.5

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For Petitioner(s):

Mr.G.Karthikeyan, Senior Counsel
for Mr.RM.Arun Swaminathan

For Respondent(s): Mr.V.Giri, Senior Counsel,
assisted by Mr.C.Venkatesh Kumar
Special Government Pleader for R1

:Mr.V.Giri, Senior Counsel assisted by
Mr.S.Ravi, Additional Public Prosecutor for R2 & R5

:Mr.J.Ravindran, Additional Advocate General
assisted by Mr.V.Chandrasekar for R3

: Mr.K.Govindarajan, DSGI, for R4

Prayer : Contempt Petition filed under Section 11 of the Contempt of Courts Act, 1971 to punish upon the Contemnors/Respondents 1, 2 and 4 for the willful disobedience of the order passed by this Honourable Court in WP(MD) No.32317 of 2025 dated 01.12.2025 according to law.

In Cont P(MD)No.3657 of 2025

S.Paramasivam

... Petitioner

Vs.

1.K.J.Praveenkumar IAS,
District Collector, Madurai.

2.J.Loganathan IPS,
Commissioner of Police, Madurai City.

3.Yagna Narayanan, Executive Officer,
Arulmigu Subramania Swamy Temple,
Thirupparankundram, Madurai.

.... Contemnors /
Respondents 1, 2 & 5



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For Petitioner(s):

Mr.K.P.S.Palanivelrajan, Senior Counsel
for Mr.P.Subbiah

For Respondent(s): Mr.V.Giri, Senior Counsel
assisted by Mr.C.Venkatesh Kumar
Special Government Pleader for R1

:Mr.V.Giri, Senior Counsel
assisted by Mr.S.Ravi, Additional Public Prosecutor
for R2

:Mr.J.Ravindran, Additional Advocate General
assisted by Mr.V.Chandrasekar for R3

Prayer : Contempt Petition filed under Section 11 of the Contempt of Courts Act, 1971 to initiate contempt proceedings against the contemnors/respondents and punish him for the wilful disobedience of the order of the High Court in WP(MD)No.33197 of 2025 dated 01.12.2025.

In Cont P(MD)No.252 of 2026 : -

M.Arasupandi

... Petitioner

Vs

1.K.J.Praveenkumar IAS,
District Collector, Madurai.

2.J.Loganathan IPS,
Commissioner of Police, Madurai City.



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3.Yagna Narayanan, Executive Officer,
Arulmigu Subramania Swamy Temple,
Thirupparankundram, Madurai.

4.The Union Home Secretary,
Government of India, New Delhi.

5.A.G.Inigo Divyan,
DCP (South), Madurai City.

6.The Chief Secretary to Government,
Government of Tamil Nadu,
St.George Fort,
Chennai-600 004.

7.The Secretary to Government,
HR & CE Department,
Secretariat, St.George Fort,
Chennai-600 004.

8.
(R8 is deleted from array of parties
as per order of this Court dated 02.02.2026
in Cont.P.(MD)No.252 of 2026 by GRSJ)

9.Rama Ravikumar ... Respondents

For Petitioner(s): Mr.Niranjan S.Kumar

For Respondent(s): Mr.V.Giri, Senior Counsel
assisted by Mr.C.Venkatesh Kumar
Special Government Pleader for R1

:Mr.Veerakathiravan, Additional Advocate General
assisted by Mr.C.Venkatesh Kumar
Special Government Pleader for R6 & R7



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:Mr.V.Giri, Senior Counsel assisted by
Mr.S.Ravi, Additional Public Prosecutor for R2 & R5

:Mr.J.Ravindran, Additional Advocate General
assisted by Mr.V.Chandrasekar for R3

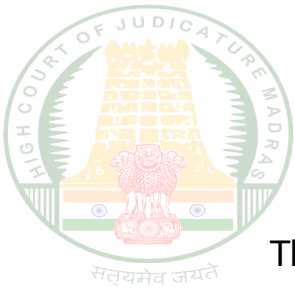
: Mr.K.Govindarajan, DSGI, for R4

Prayer : Contempt Petition filed under Section 11 of the Contempt of Courts Act, 1971 to punish the respondents 1, 2, 3, 5 & 8 for their willful deliberate disobedience of the orders of this Court dated 03.12.2025, 04.12.2025 and 09.12.2025 passed by this Court in Cont.P. (MD)No.3594 of 2025 in W.P.(MD)No.32317 of 2015.

COMMON ORDER

Heard Shri.V.Giri, learned Senior Counsel appearing for the District Collector, Madurai. He took me through the contents of the additional affidavit filed by the contemnor. Paragraph No.15 of the said order reads as follows:-

"15.I humbly submit that this Hon'ble High Court vide Judgment under contempt dated 01.02.2025 issued directions to the Temple Management / Devaswom. The one factor that I had kept in mind was that the temple management / Devaswom would be enabled to implement the said order only if there is no law and order situation in the Hillock area.



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The prohibition issued under Section 163 of BNSS, 2023 by me definitely did not contemplate the hindrance to temple officials / devaswom lighting the lamp in accordance with the Judgment of the Hon'ble High Court dated 01.12.2025.”

2. There is a saying that the proof of the pudding lies in the eating. The fact remains that on account of the prohibitory order passed by the District Collector, Madurai, the order passed by this Court was frustrated. The police took shelter only behind the order passed by the District Collector and in fact, they made it clear that they were only enforcing the order passed by the District Collector while resisting the implementation of the order passed by this Court.

3. I suggest that respect to the order passed by this Court can be shown by permitting a group of exactly 5 persons to be named by this Court to go to the lower peak of the hillock where Deepathoon lies so that symbolic prayers can be offered. I further indicate that this entire exercise can be confined to 15 minutes. This is only a suggestion and not a direction.



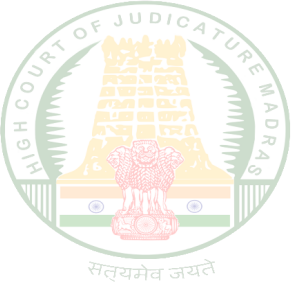
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4.The learned Senior Counsel as well as the Additional Advocate General submitted that they would get back on the suggestion made by this Court.

5.Call this case on 04.03.2026 at 4.00 pm. On the said date, even though the appearance of the Commissioner of Police & Deputy Commissioner of Police was earlier dispensed with, they are directed to be present along with the jurisdictional Assistant Commissioner of Police and the Inspector of Police. The present trustees of Arulmigu Subramania Swamy Temple as well as the incumbent Executive Officer shall also be present before this Court. The District Collector, Madurai need not be present in person day after tomorrow. He can be represented by his counsel.

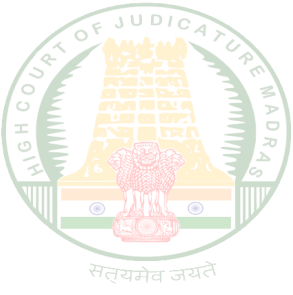
02.03.2026

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- To
- 1.K.J.Praveenkumar IAS, District Collector, Madurai.
 - 2.J.Loganathan IPS, Commissioner of Police, Madurai City.
 - 3.Yagna Narayanan, Executive Officer, Arulmigu Subramania Swamy Temple, Thirupparankundram, Madurai.
 - 4.The Chief Secretary, Government of Tamil Nadu.
 - 5.The Additional Director General of Police, Law and Order, Chennai.
 - 6.The Union Home Secretary, Government of India, New Delhi.
 - 7.The Chief Secretary, Government of Tamil Nadu.



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G.R.SWAMINATHAN, J.

rmi/skm

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