

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA AT ERNAKULAM**PRESENT****THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE RAJA VIJAYARAGHAVAN V****&****THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE K. V. JAYAKUMAR****Thursday, the 26th day of March 2026 / 5th Chaithra, 1948****DBP NO. 52 OF 2025**

**IN THE MATTER OF COCHIN DEVASWOM BOARD - COMPLAINT ALLEGING MALADMINISTRATION
AND CORRUPTION AT CHOTTANIKKARA - SUO MOTU PROCEEDINGS INITIATED BASED ON A
COMPLAINT DATED 24.04.2025 FROM SRI.THAMPY THILAKAN-REG.**

PETITIONER:**SUO MOTU****RESPONDENTS:**

- 1. STATE OF KERALA**
REPRESENTED BY THE PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
REVENUE (DEVASWOM) DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT,
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM - 695001.
- 2. COCHIN DEVASWOM BOARD**
REPRESENTED BY ITS SECRETARY, ROUND NORTH,
THRISSUR - 680001.
- 3. COMMISSIONER**
COCHIN DEVASWOM BOARD, SWARAJ ROUND NORTH,
ROUND NORTH, THRISSUR, PIN-680 001
- 4. THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER**
CHOTTANIKKARA DEVASWOM, CHOTTANIKKARA P.O.,
ERNAKULAM, PIN-682312

5. DEVASWOM MANAGER
CHOTTANIKKARA BHAGAVATHI TEMPLE, CHOTTANIKKARA P.O.,
ERNAKULAM, PIN-682312
6. THE TEMPLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REPRESENTED BY ITS SECRETARY, CHOTTANIKKARA TEMPLE COMPOUND,
CHOTTANIKKARA P.O., ERNAKULAM, PIN-682312
*ADDL.R7 & R8 IMPEADED
7. THE CHOTTANIKKARA GRAMA PANCHAYAT,
REPRESENTED BY ITS SECRETARY, CHOTTANIKKARA P.O.,
ERNAKULAM DISTRICT – 682312
8. THE DISTRICT TOWN PLANNER,
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT TOWN PLANNER, LSGD PLANNING,
DPC SECRETARIAT BUILDING, 4TH FLOOR, CIVIL STATION, KAKKANAD,
ERNAKULAM – 682030
*ARE SUO MOTU IMPEADED AS ADDITIONAL RESPONDENTS 7 AND 8 AS PER
ORDER DATED 10/09/2025 IN DBP.NO.52/2025.
*ADDL.R9 TO R11 IMPEADED
9. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
SUCHITWA MISSION, DEPARTMENT OF LSGD, PUBLIC OFFICE BUILDING,
3RD FLOOR, REVENUE COMPLEX, LMS, VELLAYAMBALAM ROAD,
UNIVERSITY OF KERALA SENATE HOUSE CAMPUS, PALAYAM,
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM - 695033
10. EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
MARAMATH WING, COCHIN DEVASWOM BOARD, CDB HEAD QUARTERS,
SWARAJ ROUND NORTH, THRISSUR - 680001
11. ASSISTANT ENGINEER,
CHOTTANIKKARA DEVASWOM, CHOTTANIKKARA, KOCHI - 682 312
*ARE SUO MOTU IMPEADED AS ADDL.RESPONDENTS 9 TO 11 VIDE ORDER
DATED 19.09.2025 IN DBP 52/2025.

***ADDL.R12 IMPEADED**

**12. THE SPECIAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT,
LOCAL SELF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM**

***IS SUO MOTU IMPEADED AS ADDL.R12 VIDE ORDER DATED 26.11.2025
IN DBP.NO.52/2025**

BY SRI.S.RAJMOHAN, SENIOR GOVERNMENT PLEADER

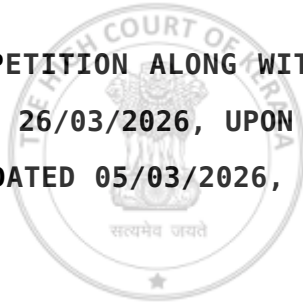
BY SRI.K.P.SUDHEER, SC, COCHIN DEVASWOM BOARD

**BY M/S.T MADHU, C.R.SARADAMANI, B.S.SURAJ KRISHNA, AVANTHIKA R.,
KARTHIK KRISHNA M., ARUNIMA A.R. and T.S.DAVIS,**

Advocates for R6

BY SRI.VINEETH KOMALACHANDRAN & SRI.NIRMAL S., Advocates for R7

**THE DEVASWOM BOARD PETITION ALONG WITH CONNECTED CASES HAVING
COME UP FOR ORDERS AGAIN ON 26/03/2026, UPON PERUSING THE PETITION AND
THIS COURT'S COMMON ORDER DATED 05/03/2026, THE COURT ON THE SAME DAY
PASSED THE FOLLOWING:**



**RAJA VIJAYARAGHAVAN V.,
&
K.V. JAYAKUMAR, JJ.**

**DBP Nos. 52 and 64 of 2025 and
WP(C) No. 32689 of 2023**

Dated this the 26th day of March, 2026

ORDER

Raja Vijayaraghavan V, J.

In terms of the direction issued by this Court, the Nodal Officer as well as the Assistant Engineer have appeared in person. The Assistant Engineer has placed before us a Detailed Project Report (DPR) on Solid Waste Management at the Chottanikkara Bhagavathy Temple. He explained the manner in which the proposed infrastructure, which includes (1) an Organic Waste Converter (OWC) plant, (2) Aerobic Ferro-Cement Composting Units (Thumbboormuzhi Model), and (3) a Material Recovery Facility, is to be implemented. He has also referred to site selection, land development, cost estimation, and the implementation plan. It is submitted that, after following due procedure, the work will be tendered and is likely to be awarded in the month of May, so that it can be completed before August.

2. The Nodal Officer has also appeared before us and has placed a report dated 25.03.2026. Photographs have also been produced showing the measures taken to maintain cleanliness in and around the temple premises.

3. We have gone through the report and are satisfied with the manner

in which the works have been carried out thus far. It is further submitted that the maintenance of cleanliness around the temple has been entrusted on contract, and that the Nodal Officer, along with his team, shall ensure that the temple premises are kept clean and well maintained. For the purpose of obtaining approval, it is submitted that all relevant papers will be placed before this Court in the third week of May.

4. We make it clear that the Nodal Officer, along with his team of officers, shall ensure that the temple premises are kept clean, neat and well maintained at all times, befitting the stature and sanctity of such a holy temple, so that the devotees are able to have darshan in a proper and dignified atmosphere.

List this matter on 18.05.2026.

Sd/-
RAJA VIJAYARAGHAVAN V.,
JUDGE

Sd/-
K.V. JAYAKUMAR,
JUDGE

msh