

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA AT ERNAKULAM
PRESENT
THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE DEVAN RAMACHANDRAN**

**Friday, the 23rd day of January 2026 / 3rd Magha, 1947
RP NO. 1394 OF 2025 in WP(C)22750/2018 (P)**

REVIEW PETITIONER/3RD PARTY:

**RAHUL K.T, AGED 38 YEARS, S/O. K.K.THANKAPPAN, KUDILINGAL HOUSE,
THAIKKATTUKARA P.O, ALUVA, ERNAKULAM, PIN - 683106**

RESPONDENT/PETITIONER & RESPONDENTS:

1. ST. STEPHEN'S MALANKARA CATHOLIC CHURCH KATTANAM VILLAGE, BHARANICKAVU, ALAPPUZHA, REPRESENTED BY ITS TRUSTEE SILVY GEORGE, AGED 48 YEARS, S/O GEORGE, MANKAVIL, KATTANAM VILLAGE, BHARANICKAVU, ALAPPUZH, PIN - 690503
2. STATE OF KERALA, REPRESENTED BY THE PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695001
3. PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, LOCAL SELF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT, STATE OF KERALA, GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695001
4. DISTRICT COLLECTOR, COLLECTORATE, CIVIL STATION, ALAPPUZHA, PIN - 688001
5. CHIEF ENGINEER (R AND B), PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, MUSEUM, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695033
6. EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, ROADS PWD ROADS DIVISION, COLLECTORATE BUILDING, ALAPPUZHA, PIN - 688001
7. ASST. ENGINEER, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, KATTANAM, ALAPPUZHA, PIN - 688001
8. BHARANICKAVU GRAMA PANCHAYAT, REPRESENTED BY ITS SECRETARY, BHARANICKAVU, ALAPPUZHA, PIN - 690520
9. SECRETARY, BHARANICKAVU GRAMA PANCHAYAT, BHARANICKAVU, ALAPPUZHA, PIN - 690520
10. SUB INSPECTOR, KURATHIKAD POLICE STATION, MAVELIKKARA, ALAPPUZHA, PIN - 690101
11. KERALA ADVERTISING INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION, REGN NO.EKM/TC/536/2012, STATE OFFICE IVTH FLOOR, MATHEWSONS TRADE CENTRE (NEAR TVS), KALOOR, KOCHI, REPRESENTED BY ITS SECRETARY G.RAMESH BABU, S/O. P.D.KESAVA PILLAI, AGED 60., PIN - 682017
12. THE CORPORATION OF KOCHI, REPRESENTED BY THE SECRETARY, P.B.NO.1016, KOCHI, PIN - 682011
13. THE CORPORATION OF THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, REPRESENTED BY SECRETARY, VIKAS BHAVAN (P.O), THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695033
14. THE CORPORATION OF KOLLAM, REPRESENTED BY SECRETARY, KOLLAM, PIN - 691001
15. THE CORPORATION OF KANNUR, REPRESENTED BY SECRETARY, P.B.NO.39, KANNUR, PIN - 670001
16. THE CORPORATION OF THRISSUR, REPRESENTED BY SECRETARY, THRISSUR, PIN - 680011
17. THE CORPORATION OF KOZHIKODE, REPRESENTED BY SECRETARY, KOZHIKODE,

PIN - 673001

- 18. THE CHIEF SECRETARY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF KERALA, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695001**
- 19. THE STATE POLICE CHIEF, STATE OF KERALA, PIN - 695010**
- 20. THE ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA, REPRESENTED BY ITS SECRETARY, NIRAVACHAN SADAN, ASOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI , PIN - 110001**
- 21. THE KERALA STATE ELECTION COMMISSION, REPRESENTED BY ITS SECRETARY, CORPORATION OFFICE COMPLEX, LMS JUNCTION, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695033**
- 22. NATIONAL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY OF INDIA, G 5 & 6, DABRI-GURGAON RD, SECTOR 10 DWARKA, DELHI, PIN - 110075**
- 23. STATE ROAD SAFETY AUTHORITY, REPRESENTED BY ITS CEO, TRANSPORTCOMMISSIONERATE, FOURTH FLOOR, TRANS BUILDING, VAZHUTHAKKAD, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695014**
- 24. DIRECTOR OF PANCHAYATH, PANCHAYATH DIRECTORATE, SWARAJ BHAVAN, GRAND FLOOR, NANTHANCODE, KOWDIAR P.O., THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695003**
- 25. DIRECTOR OF URBAN AFFAIRS, 1ST FLOOR, SWARAJ BHAVAN, NANTHANCODE P.O., THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695003**

Review Petition praying inter alia that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed along with the WP(C) the High Court be pleased to direct the State of Kerala to file an explanation for the noncompliance of the impugned judgment, in the interest of justice equity and good conscience.

This Review Petition coming on for orders upon perusing the petition and the affidavit filed in support of WP(C) and this Court's judgment dated 13.03.2025 and order dated 15.01.2026 and upon hearing the arguments of M/S AMRUTHA SURESH, Advocate for Review Petitioner/3rd Party, M/S. GEORGE VARGHESE (PERUMPALLIKUTTIYIL), A.R. DILEEP, P.J. JOE PAUL & MANU SEBASTIAN, Advocates for the R1 in RP/petitioner in WP(C), SRI.K.V.SOHAN, STATE ATTORNEY, SRI ASHOK M.CHERIAN, ADDITIONAL ADVOCATE GENERAL & T.S.SHYAMPRASANTH (GOVERNMENT PLEADER) for R2 to R7 in RP/R1 to R6 in WP(C), SRI.VINCENT JOSEPH, Advocate for R9 in RP/R8 in WP(C), SRI.K.V.SOHAN (STATE ATTORNEY) & GOVERNMENT PLEADER for R10 & R18 in RP/R9 & R17 in WP(C), SRI.LAL K.JOSEPH, STANDING COUNSEL for R11 in RP/R10 in WP(C), M/S.BABU KARUKAPADATH & C.N PRABHAKARAN, STANDING COUNSEL for R12 in RP/Addl.R11 in WP(C), SRI.N.NANDAKUMARA MENON (SENIOR ADVOCATE) along with SRI.SUMAN CHAKRAVARTHY, STANDING COUNSEL for R13 in RP/Addl.R12 in WP(C), SRI.M.K.CHANDRA MOHAN DAS (STANDING COUNSEL) & SRI.S.SREEKUMAR (KOLLAM) for R14 in RP/ Addl.R13 in W.P.(C), SRI.K.K.CHANDRAN PILLAI (SENIOR ADVOCATE) along with M/S.S.AMBILY, NAMITHA NAMBIAR, SAJI THOMAS, VANIAH MARIA DOMINIC, M. MEENA JOHN & ISSAC M PERUMPILLIL, Advocates for R15 in RP/ADDL.R14 in W.P.(C), SRI.SANTHOSH P.PODUVAL, STANDING COUNSEL for R16 in RP/Addl.R15 in WP(C) , M/S.BINDUMOL JOSEPH, B.S.S, SRI.DEEPULAL MOHAN, STANDING COUNSEL for R21 in RP/ Addl.R20 in WP(C), and of SRI.HARISH VASUDEVAN, AMICUS CURIAE, & SRI.JACOB for assisting AMICUS CURIAE (By order), the court passed the following:

DEVAN RAMACHANDRAN, J.

R.P.No.1394/2025 in WP(C)No.22750/2018

Dated this the 23rd day of January, 2026

O R D E R

This matter has been listed today at the request of Sri.Harish Vasudevan – learned Amicus Curiae. He has filed a report, styling it as an additional report, dated 22.01.2026. Suffice to say, the contents of the said report is rather disturbing. In fact, the earlier report of the learned Amicus Curiae, dated 15.01.2026, also indicates that there were hundreds of flags and boards even in the streets of Kochi and were removed only much later.

2. To say that, in spite of the judgment and various orders of this Court and though this petition for review is still pending, unauthorised boards and flags, in the manner as noticed by the learned Amicus Curiae, are installed, is nothing short of shocking and distressing.

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3. Sri.Suman Chakravarthy – learned Standing Counsel for the Trivandrum Corporation, submitted that his client will immediately look into the issue and file response. He added that, however, the moment complaints started coming, action has been initiated, including by notifying those who are responsible for the unauthorised installations.

4. This Court has been emphasizing that mere words are not enough; and that it has to be ensured that pedestrian rights are not violated, no matter what. This Court has been trying to enforce such rights, including over the ‘zebra lines’, and have even called for ‘Operation Footpath’ in a connected matter. When all these are pending, to say that installations are being made in blatant violation of the judgment and earlier orders, is nothing short of appalling. Of course, this Court is not yet aware what the real facts are; and the it is for the Secretaries of the Corporations of Trivandrum and Kochi to respond.

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5. Since Sri.Suman Chakravarthy seeks a few days' time, this Court deems it better not to speak further at this time because, the facts will have to be first established.

6. Needless to say, when the response from the Corporations of Trivandrum and Kochi comes, it has to be with specific reference to the number of boards/flags, action taken, the amount of fine collected and every other germane factors.

Post on 04.02.2026.



Sd/-

DEVAN RAMACHANDRAN,
JUDGE

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