

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA AT ERNAKULAM
PRESENT
THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE DEVAN RAMACHANDRAN
&
THE HONOURABLE MRS. JUSTICE M.B. SNEHALATHA

Monday, the 6th day of October 2025 / 14th Aswina, 1947
WP(C) NO. 7039 OF 2025(D)

PETITIONER:

R. RAJASEKHARAN PILLAI (ADVOCATE) AGED 72 YEARS S/O. LATE RAGHAVAN PILLAI, SAI RANGAM, ERUVA EAST, PATHIYOOR. P.O, KAYAMKULAM, ALAPPUZHA DISTRICT., PIN - 690508

RESPONDENTS:

- 1. STATE OF KERALA REPRESENTED BY ITS SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE (DEVASWOMS) SECRETARIAT, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM., PIN - 695001**
- 2. CHAIRMAN, ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE SREE PADMANABHASWAMY TEMPLE, NORTH NADA, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM., PIN - 695023**
- 3. SREE PADMA`NABHASWAMY TEMPLE REPRESENTED BY ITS EXECUTIVE OFFICER, NORTH NADA, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM., PIN - 695023**
- 4. CHIEF THANTRI SREE PADMANABHASWAMY TEMPLE THANTRI MADOM, EAST NADA, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM., PIN - 695023**

Writ petition (civil) 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 respondents 2 and 3 to submit a report on the steps taken by them to rectify the defects in the Moolavigraham of Sree Padmanabhaswamy Temple after filing of Exhibit P 3 Report and also the present condition of the Moolavigraham of Sree Padmanabhaswamy before this Hon'ble Court, pending disposal of this Writ Petition (C).

This petition again coming on for orders upon perusing the petition and the affidavit filed in support of WP(C) and this court's order dated 17.09.2025 and upon hearing the arguments of M/S.M.BALAGOVINDAN, MINI GANGADHARAN & T.K.ANANDA PADMANABHAN Advocates for petitioner, SENIOR GOVERNMENT PLEADER for R1, STANDING COUNSEL for R2 to R4 and of SRI.N.NANDAKUMARA MENON (SENIOR ADVOCATE) along with M/S.SMITHA S.PILLAI, P.K.MANOJKUMAR, ALICE THOMAS & M.C.SINY, Advocates for respondent 4, the court passed the following:

DEVAN RAMACHANDRAN & M.B. SNEHALATHA, JJ.

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Dated this the 6th day of October, 2025

ORDER

Devan Ramachandran, J.

A Note prepared by the Chief 'Thanthri' of the Temple has been handed over across the Bar by Sri.Nandakumara Menon - learned Senior counsel, assisted by Smt.Smitha.

2. A reading of the Note of the Chief 'Thanthri' indicates his mind that he does not find the deficiencies on the Idol - as identified by the Expert Committee in the year 2017-18 - to be such that it would erode or attenuate the Divine power; but when it comes to the Idol of "Vishvakshena" and that the roof of the 'Sreekovil', he opines them to be that which reduces the physical power of the Temple and hence to be done immediately. In other words, the Chief 'Thanthri' opines that the latter work will have to be completed first, with the restoration of the Idol to be done within the next "Uttarayana" period.

3. The Chief 'Thanthri' further informs us, through the Note, that one more inspection is scheduled on the 12th and 13th of this month; and that the findings to be generated will have to be compared with the ones entered by the Expert Committee in the year 2017 - 18. He concludes saying that, after the "Murajapam"

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– which is to commence on 20.11.2025, ends with the “Lakshadeepam” on 14.01.2026, the work of restoration of the Idol will have to be commenced, which was what he had earlier informed the Administrative Committee through its letter dated 06.02.2025.

4. Therefore, going by the opinion of the Chief 'Thanthri', the works to be first completed are the reconstruction of the roof of the 'Sreekovil' and the Idol of the “Vishvakshena” – the latter of which the Chief 'Thanthri' himself says is in its final stage; and that thereafter, the most restoration work of the Idols will have to commence.

5. We understand that the primary complaint of the petitioners is that no action has been taken by the Administrative Committee, or the Executive Officer, in spite of the report of the Expert Committee of the year 2017. We will deal with this issue in due course; and choose to reserve our comments as of now.

6. However, since some work has commenced, admittedly, based on the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court; and since it reflects the collective conscience of the millions who have reposed their faith in the cosmic power of Lord “Padmanabha Swamy”, there cannot be two ways about it that all the works in question will have to be completed within

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proper schedules.

7. Therefore, the Administrative Committee will now give us a report of all the works as mentioned in the Note of the Chief 'Thanthri', with specific reference to the reconstruction of the roof of the 'Sreekovil' and that of the Idol of "Vishvaksena". If any such work is still pending, the details of the same will be made available; specifically the time frames within which any such will be completed. The report shall also indicate the officer/officers who are entrusted with the supervision of the work, either by the Administrative Committee, or by the Chief 'Thanthri', or by the Advisory Committee, as the case may be.

8. The afore report shall be placed before us peremptorily on the next posting date.

We direct the Registry to maintain the Note of the Chief 'Thanthri' in the Judge's papers of these cases.

List on 15.10.2025.

Sd/- DEVAN RAMACHANDRAN,
JUDGE

Sd/- M.B. SNEHALATHA,
JUDGE

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