



IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU

DATED THIS THE 23RD DAY OF JANUARY, 2026

BEFORE

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE B M SHYAM PRASAD

WRIT PETITION NO. 1450 OF 2026 (GM-RES)

BETWEEN:

1. VEERAMARANNASAMY
DEVARAJEERRNODDARA
KATTADA SEVA SAMITHI
AJJAIANA HATTI VILLAGE KANCHIPURA POST,
MATHOD HOBLI, HOSADURGA TALUK
CHITRADURGA DISTRICT-577121
REPRESENTED BY ITS PRESIDENT
P.RANGASWAMY
S/O PARAMESHWARAPPA
AGED 46 YEARS
2. RAMACHANDRAPPA
S/O MARAPPA
AGED ABOUT 60 YEARS
SECRETARY OF VEERAMARANNASWAMY
DEVARAJEERNODDARA KATTADA SEVA SAMITHI
R/AT AJJAIANA HATTI VILLAGE,
KANCHIPURA POST,
MATHOD HOBLI,
HOSADURGA TALUK,
CHITRADURGA DISTRICT-577121

...PETITIONERS

(BY SRI. PHANIRAJ KASHYAP, ADVOCATE)





AND:

1. THE STATE OF KARNATAKA
THROUGH ITS PRINCIPAL SECRETARY,
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, VIKASA SOUDH
BENGALURU - 560 001.
2. THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
CHITHRADURGA DISTRICT,
CHITHRADURGA - 577 501.
3. THE SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE
CHITHRADURGA DISTRICT,
CHITHRADURGA - 577 501.
4. THE THASILDAR
HOSADURGA TALUK,
HOSADURGA,
CHITHRADURGA DISTRICT - 577 527
5. THE POLICE INSPECTOR
HOSADURGA TALUK,
HOSADURGA,
CHITHRADURGA DISTRICT - 577 527.

...RESPONDENTS

(BY SMT. SARITHA KULKARNI, AGA)

THIS WP IS FILED UNDER ARTICLES 226 AND 227 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA PRAYING TO-DIRECT THE R4 AND 5 TO FORTHWITH CONSIDER THE PETITIONERS REPRESENTATION DATED 27.11.2025 (ANNX-D) AND PASS POSITIVE ORDER GRANTING PERMISSIONS TO CONDUCT THE VEERAMARANNASWAMY JATRA/FAIR ON 28.01.2026 TO 03.02.2026; DIRECT THE R2 AND 3 TO ENSURE THAT ADEQUATE POLICE PROTECTION AND SECURITY



ARRANGEMENTS ARE MADE FOR THE PEACEFUL AND SMOOTH CONDUCT OF THE SAID JATRA.

THIS PETITION, COMING ON FOR PRELIMINARY HEARING, THIS DAY, ORDER WAS MADE THEREIN AS UNDER:

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE B M SHYAM PRASAD

ORAL ORDER

The petitioners have filed this petition because they assert that they have not had the requisite support from the Executive Magistrate and the Senior Police Officer of the Taluka in holding the *Fair [Sri Veeramarannaswamy Devara Kallu Hunime Jathre Mahotsava]*. The petitioners, while referring to the multiple proceedings including the proceedings before this Court, have sought for directions to the Jurisdictional Tahsildar and the Jurisdictional Police Inspector to consider the representations to grant permission to hold the *Fair* between 28.01.2026 and 03.02.2026.



2. This Court, on 21.01.2026, recording the question¹ for consideration has called upon the jurisdictional Police Inspector to place on record why measures as permissible in law cannot be adopted against those who could create law and order situation instead of stopping the conduct of the *Fair*. This Court has called for such Report with Ms. Saritha Kulkarni, the learned Additional Government Advocate placing on record that the jurisdictional Police Inspector's opinion that **[a]** the *Fair* must not be conducted because there have been instances of attempt to murder when the *Fair* was held during the previous year, and **[b]** the possibilities of a law and order because some are conspiring to create ruckus.

3. Mr. M. Gopala Naika, the Police Inspector, Chitradurga District [*the fifth respondent*] and

¹ "Whether this Court must accept the *fifth respondent's* Report and enable a Traditional Fair not to be conducted"



Mr. Tirupati Patil, the jurisdictional Tahsildar, are present. Ms. Saritha Kulkarni places on record the fifth respondent's Report, and this Report essentially reads thus.

- [a] There are rival groups including the petitioner, who insist that the *Fair* and the services to the deities must be by them.
- [b] A peace meeting was convened, and only the petitioners participated in such meeting. The rival group headed by a certain Mr. Lokanathappa have refused to participate in the meeting.
- [c] In the year 2020, there was a rumour that the devotees, who visit the temple could be poisoned.
- [d] There is a possibility of damages to the property and lives if the *Fair* is held.



[e] Though bonds were taken under Section 107 of Cr.P.C on the previous occasion, it have been to no avail.

4. This Court apart from the afore, which essentially indicates the conduct of a few not well disposed towards the conduct of the *Fair*, nothing is placed on record to indicate that such *Fair* will be impermissible. Therefore, this Court must opine that the reluctance on the administration to permit the *Fair* appears to be the conduct of a few who want to be outside the rule of law and that the authorities cannot give into the conduct of such persons, but then the petitioners must also ensure that they do not insist upon performing every act that is traditionally part of the *Fair* if it is to be held.

5. As such, this Court opines that the Jurisdictional Tahsildar and the Jurisdictional Police Inspector must convene a meeting with the petitioners and advise them on those measures that



would be better avoided to help the administration in ensuring that there is no damage to the property or life and the *Fair* is conducted in a peaceful manner with the reiteration that the jurisdictional Police Inspector must take every preventive measures, including arrests that may be permissible in law and seeking deployment of additional forces to ensure that the *Fair* is conducted with no untoward incident. In fact, the Jurisdictional Tahsildar only submits that this Court may observe that the petitioners must desist from an evening procession as that could be a difficult period to monitor the situation. Hence, the following

ORDER

The petition stands disposed of calling upon the petitioners to assist the administration in identifying the measures that must be for the proper conduct of the *Fair* calling upon the Jurisdictional



Tahsildar and the Jurisdictional Police
Inspector to take every measure, including
measures to secure additional deployment,
to ensure that there is no untoward
incident during the *Fair*.

**SD/-
(B M SHYAM PRASAD)
JUDGE**

RB