

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA AT ERNAKULAM
PRESENT
THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE EASWARAN S.**

Wednesday, the 3rd day of September 2025 / 12th Bhadra, 1947
WP(C) NO. 32982 OF 2025(W)

PETITIONERS:

1. PAMBA BOAT RACE CLUB NEERATTUPURAM, THIRUVALLA, REG NO.274/2007, REPRESENTED BY ITS WORKING PRESIDENT, VICTOR T. THOMAS, AGED 61 YEARS, S/O. LATE THOMAS MATHEW, MULAMOOTTIL THUNDIATH HOUSE, KOZHENCHERRY. P.O., PATHANAMTHITTA DISTRICT, PIN - 689641
2. PUNNOOSE JOSEPH, AGED 53 YEARS S/O. IYPE JOSE, SECRETARY, PAMBA BOAT RACE CLUB, NEERATTUPURAM, THIRUVALLA, RESIDING AT VENGAL, PUTHENVEETIL HOUSE, AMICHAKARY. P.O., THIRUVALLA, PATHANAMTHITTA DISTRICT, PIN - 689112

RESPONDENTS:

1. STATE OF KERALA REPRESENTED BY THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT WATER RESOURCES, (IR) DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695001
2. EXECUTIVE ENGINEER KOLLAM IRRIGATION DIVISION, IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT, KOLLAM, PIN - 691001
3. THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR 2ND FLOOR, COLECTORATE PATHANAMTHITTA DISTRICT, PIN - 689645
4. SUB COLLECTOR CITY GOVERNMENT OFFICE, THIRUVALLA, PATHANAMTHITTA, PIN - 689101
5. PAMBA BOAT RACE CLUB REG NO.98/90 NEERETTUPURAM, NEDUMPRAM P.O, THIRUVALLA, PATHANAMTHITTA (REGISTARION NO. P98/90) REPRESENTED BY ITS WORKING PRESIDENT BABU VALIYAVEEDAN, AGED 58, VALIYAVEETIL HOUSE, NEERETTUPURAM P.O, TAHALAVADY VILLAGE, KUTTANADU TALUK, PIN - 688561
6. NEERATTUPURAM JALOLSAVA SAMITHI REPRESENTED BY ITS CONVENER PRAKASH PANAVELIL, AGED 52, PANAVELIL HOUSE, THALAVADY P.O, THALAVADY VILLAGE, KUTTANADU TALUK, ALAPUZHA,, PIN - 688561
7. PRAKASH PANAVELI AGED 52 YEARS PANAVALIL HOUSE, PANAVAD P.O., THALAVADY VILLAGE, KUTTANADU TALUK, ALAPPUZHA DISTRICT, , PIN - 688561
8. BABU VALIYAVEEDAN VALIYAVEETIL HOUSE, NEERATTUPURAM P.O., THALAVADY VILLAGE, KUTTANADU TALUK, ALAPPUZHA, PIN - 688561
9. REJI ABRAHAM TAIKKADAVIL HOUSE KADAPRA P.O., THIRUVALLA TALUK, PATHANAMTHITTA,, PIN - 689101

1.

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 stay the operation of Exhibit P16 impugned order and provisionally permit the Petitioner to conduct their boat race on the scheduled date i.e. 04/09/2025 or any other date as directed by this Hon'ble Court, pending disposal of this Writ Petition.

This petition coming on for admission upon perusing the petition and the affidavit filed in support of WP(C) and upon hearing the arguments of M/S LIJU.V.STEPHEN, INDU SUSAN JACOB, TAJ K. TOM, Advocates for the petitioners and of the GOVERNMENT PLEADR for R1 to R4 (By Order), the court passed the following:



EASWARAN S., J.

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Dated this the 03rd day of September, 2025

ORDER

Admit.

2. Learned Government Pleader takes notice for respondents 1 to 4. Issue notice to respondents 5 to 9 by speed post.

3. Heard, Sri. Liju.V.Stephen, learned Counsel for the petitioners and the learned Government Pleader on the question of interim order.

4. What is impugned in the writ petition is Exhibit P16 whereby, the District Collector has not permitted any of the factions to conduct the boat race on 4th and 5th of September.

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5. Learned Counsel for the petitioners submitted that, even if this Court is inclined to grant permission, his clients will not be in a position to conduct the boat race on 4th of September due to the lack of sufficient time for making arrangements. It is submitted that from 1957 onwards, the petitioner association has been conducting the boat race, whereas for the last year, there was a slight deviation and they were allowed to conduct the boat race only after the contesting respondents conducted the boat race. He further points up to an order of injunction passed by the Munsiff Court, Thiruvalla in O.S No.424 of 2016 dated 07.09.2016, restraining the contesting respondents from interfering with the affairs of the petitioner association. Be that as it may, since the District Collector on assessment of the law and order in the locality, has prevented both the factions from conducting

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the boat race on 4th and 5th of September, 2025, this Court does not see any scope for interfering with the said direction.

6. However, since it is submitted across the Bar by the learned Counsel for the petitioners and confirmed by the learned Government Pleader that, the petitioner association was conducting the boat race continuously during Onam season, there will be a direction to the District Collector to permit the petitioners to conduct the boat race on 12.09.2025 and thereafter allot a convenient date for the 5th respondent to conduct the boat race.

Post on 29.09.2025.

Sd/-

**EASWARAN S.
JUDGE**

ARK

APPENDIX OF WP(C) 32982/2025

Exhibit P16

**A TRUE COPY OF THE ORDER NO..DCPTA/4323/2023-DM2 DATED
29/08/2025 ISSUED BY THE 3RD RESPONDENT**

