

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA AT ERNAKULAM
PRESENT
THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE RAJA VIJAYARAGHAVAN V
&
THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE K. V. JAYAKUMAR

Monday, the 13th day of October 2025 / 21st Aswina, 1947
WP(C) NO. 37585 OF 2025 (W)

PETITIONER:

VISWA HINDU PARISHAD, KERALA REPRESENTED BY IT GENERAL SECRETARY
ADV. ANIL VILAYIL, AGED 54 YEARS, S/O. A.G.P.PILLAI NANMA,
KOTTARKAVU. MAVELIKKARA., PIN - 690101

RESPONDENTS:

1. STATE OF KERALA, REPRESENTED BY ITS SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT REVENUE (DEVASWOM) DEPARTMENT KERALA GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695001
2. TRAVANCORE DEVASWOM BOARD, REPRESENTED BY ITS SECRETARY , DEVASWOM HEAD QUARTERS, NANDANCODE, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695003
3. COCHIN DEVASWOM BOARD, REPRESENTED BY ITS SECRETARY, HEAD QUARTERS, SWARAJ ROUND WEST, THRISSUR, PIN - 680001
4. MALABAR DEVASWOM BOARD, REPRESENTED BY ITS SECRETARY, HOUSEFED COMPLEX, MINI BYPASS ROAD, KOZHIKODE, PIN - 673006
5. GURUVAYUR DEVASWOM BOARD, REPRESENTED BY ITS SECRETARY HEAD QUARTERS GURUVAYOOR, PIN - 680101
6. KODALMANIKYAM DEVASWOM BOARD, REPRESENTED BY ITS ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER KODALMANICKYAM, IRINJALAKUDA, PIN - 680121
7. CENTRAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, REPRESENTED BY ITS DIRECTOR, CBI HEAD QUARTERS KESTON RAOD, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695010
8. COMPTROLLER & AUDITOR GENERAL, OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER & AUDITOR GENERAL, M.G.RAOD, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695039

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 respondents 2 to 6 to produce all the reports of appraisals conducted in the temples in respect of all the valuable articles under the management of the Devaswoms as on date.

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.R.KRISHNA RAJ, E.S.SONI & R.PRATHEESH (ARANMULA), Advocates for the petitioner, GOVERNMENT PLEADER for R1, SRI.G.BIJU, STANDING COUNSEL for R2, SRI.K.P.SUDHEER, STANDING COUNSEL for R3, SRI.R.RANJANIE, STANDING COUNSEL for R4, SRI.T.K.VIPINDAS, STANDING COUNSEL for R5, SRI.SREELAL N.WARRIER, Advocate for R7, DEPUTY SOLICITOR GENERAL OF INDIA for R8, the court passed the following:

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

WP(C) Nos. 37527 & 37585 of 2025

Dated this the 13th day of October, 2025

ORDER

Raja Vijayaraghavan V, J.

The learned Government Pleader takes notice for the 1st respondent. Sri. G. Biju, the learned Standing Counsel appearing for the Travancore Devaswom Board, takes notice for the 2nd respondent. Sri.K.P. Sudheer, the learned Standing Counsel for Cochin Devaswom Board, takes notice for the 3rd respondent. Sri.R. Ranjanie, the learned Standing Counsel for Malabar Devaswom Board, takes notice for the 4th respondent. Sri.T. K. Vipindas, the learned Standing Counsel for the Guruvayur Devaswom Board, takes notice for the 5th respondent. Sri.Sreelal N. Warriar, takes notice for 7th respondent. The learned DSGI, takes notice for the 8th respondent. Issue notice to the 6th respondent by speed post.

Smt. Ranjanie, the learned Standing Counsel appearing for the Malabar Devaswom, pointed out that there are more than 1008 temples under the Malabar Devaswom Board and the trustees are in charge of individual temples and the Board has only a supervisory role. It is submitted that in view of the prayers advanced, the petitioner be directed to implead the trustees as well.

It is for the petitioner to take note of the above aspect and take appropriate steps.

Post on 17.11.2025.

Sd/-

**RAJA VIJAYARAGHAVAN V,
JUDGE**

Sd/-

**K.V. JAYAKUMAR,
JUDGE**

msp