

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA AT ERNAKULAM
PRESENT
THE HONOURABLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE MR. SOUMEN SEN
&
THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE SYAM KUMAR V.M.**

Thursday, the 12th day of March 2026 / 21st Phalguna, 1947
WP(PIL) NO. 55 OF 2026(S)

PETITIONER:

SRI. MUHAMMED SHIYAS, AGED 47 YEARS, SON OF V.M. MARAKKAR,
RESIDING AT VADAPPILLY HOUSE, THAIKATTUKARA P.O., ALUVA,
ERNAKULAM DISTRICT, PIN - 683 106.

RESPONDENTS:

1. THE STATE OF KERALA, REPRESENTED BY CHIEF SECRETARY, GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM DISTRICT, PIN - 695 001.
2. THE CHIEF SECRETARY, GOVERNMENT OF KERALA, GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM DISTRICT, PIN - 695 001.
3. THE PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, KERALA FINANCE DEPARTMENT, MAIN BLOCK, FIRST FLOOR, ROOM NO. 373, GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM DISTRICT, PIN - 695 001.
4. THE SPECIAL SECRETARY/DIRECTOR PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT (I & PRD), SOUTH BLOCK, FIRST FLOOR, ROOM NO.373, GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM DISTRICT, PIN - 695 001.
5. THE SECRETARY, GENERAL ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695 001.
6. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT GENERAL (A & E AUDIT), AG'S OFFICE COMPLEX, CANTONMENT STATION RD, STATUE, PALAYAM, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM DISTRICT, PIN - 695 001.

Writ petition (Public Interest Litigation) praying inter alia that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed along with the WP(PIL) the High Court be pleased to direct the respondents 1 to 6 to place before this Hon'ble Court the complete administrative file relating to the impugned advertisement, including administrative sanction, financial concurrence, the budget head under which the expenditure was incurred, the total amount spent for publication of the advertisement for the scrutiny of this Hon'ble Court and direct the respondents not to publish any sort of material violative of Exhibit P3 and P4 on the eve of the Elections, pending disposal of the writ petition (PIL).

This petition coming on for admission upon perusing the petition and the affidavit filed in support of WP(PIL) and upon hearing the arguments of M/S. ANOOP V.NAIR, SHERRY GEORGE CHERIAN, PARVATHY VIJAYAN, SHARANNYA P., ATHUL P., C.A.BEEMA BEEVI & FERRA A THANKAM, Advocates for the petitioner and of GOVERNMENT PLEADER, the court passed the following:

P.T.O.

ORDER

The respondents shall file a counter affidavit within 10 days from date and reply thereto shall be filed within a week thereafter.

The question of maintainability of this writ petition as a Public Interest Litigation is to be decided first before we go into the merits of the matter.

Post on 09/04/2026.

Sd/- SOUMEN SEN, CHIEF JUSTICE

Sd/- SYAM KUMAR V.M., JUDGE



APPENDIX OF WP(PIL) 55/2026

Exhibit P3

TRUE COPY OF THE JUDGMENT OF THE HON'BLE SUPREME COURT DATED 13.05.2015 IN COMMON CAUSE V. UNION OF INDIA (MANU/SC/0604/2015).

Exhibit P4

TRUE COPY OF THE GOVERNMENT ORDER BEARING NO. G.O (P) NO.4/2021/I &PRD DATED 28.04.2021 ISSUED BY INFORMATION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS (D) DEPARTMENT.

