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Status: **Pending**

Case Number: **WP 202247/2026**
(KAHC030064652026)

Classification: **GM RES**

Date of Filing: **17/06/2026**
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Petitioner: **MR GUNDUREDDY
KAMALAPURE @ GUNDAPPA
REDDY**

Petitioner Advocate: **YASHAS S.
DIKSHIT**

Respondent: **THE STATE OF
KARNATAKA**

Respondent Advocate:

Filing No.: **WP 202104/2026**

Judge: **S.R.KRISHNA KUMAR**

Last Posted For:

Last Date of Action: **24/06/2026**

Last Action Taken:
ADJOURNED

Next Hearing Date: **01/07/2026**

Daily Orders: **WP 202247/2026**

1	24/06/2026	S.R.KRISHNA KUMAR	ADJOURNED
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ORAL ORDER ON INTERIM RELIEF

In this petition, petitioner seeks quashing of the impugned endorsement dated 11.06.2026 issued by respondent No.3-Tahsildar and for other reliefs.

2. Heard Sri Venkatesh P. Dalawai, learned counsel for the petitioner and Sri Shashikiran Shetty, learned Advocate General and learned Advocate General and Senior Counsel for the respondents and perused the material on record.

3. Learned counsel for the petitioner would invite my attention to the material on record in order to contend that the petitioner who was the President of the Basavadi Shiva Sharana Bruhat Hindu Samavesha Utasava Committee is conducting the Hindu Religious Convention and Procession on 28.06.2026 at Akka Mahadevi College premises which was permitted by Sri Basaveshwara Devasthanana Pancha Committee or at Basaveshwara ITI Auditorium as venues for the programme. It was submitted that when the petitioner submitted an application to respondent No.3 - Tahsildar on 05.06.2026 seeking permission for conducting the procession and convention on 28.06.2026, the respondent No.3 -Tahsildar obtained a report dated 10.06.2026 from the respondent No.4 - Police Sub-Inspector in pursuance of which the respondent No.3 - Tahsildar issued the impugned endorsement dated 11.06.2026 illegally and arbitrarily rejecting the request on the false and erroneous ground that one of the invitees i.e., Sri Aadrushya Kadeshwara Swamiji of Kanneri Matha, who was attending the event had been using derogatory, insulting and provocative expressions in his speeches which was objected to by the Karnataka Lingayath Mathadhipatigala Okkoota and Basavanpura Association thereby resulting in law and order problems/issues. It is submitted that, as directed by this Court in its order dated 18.06.2026, both the petitioner and the aforesaid Swamiji had filed affidavits not only undertaking not to use any such alleged provocative language or expression, but also undertaking to comply with the interim order of temporary injunction granted against the said Swamiji/invitee in O.S.No.7593 of 2025. It was also submitted that the aforesaid Swamiji of Kanneri Matha has also filed an affidavit specifically undertaking that he would merely participate in the event and would not give any speeches, directly by himself or through anyone else and that he shall not create any law and order problem at the event.

4. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the impugned order completely imposing a total prohibition of conducting/holding of an event impinges on the fundamental rights guaranteed under Articles 25, 26 and 19 of the Constitution of India apart from irreparable injury and hardship being caused to the petitioner and other persons participating in the entire event which has been prevented by the impugned order which deserves to be quashed.

5. Learned Advocate General would reiterate the various contentions urged in the statement of objections and submit that the aforesaid Sri Kanneri Swamiji is habitually involved in using derogatory, insulting and provocative expressions against Basava followers, Lingayath religious leaders, Basava organizations etc. in all his speeches and all the said persons, organizations, groups etc. have submitted representations, objections against the said Swamiji participating in the proposed event and various criminal and civil cases are also pending against the said Swamiji, who is invited to participate in the said event. It is also submitted that the entire Lingayath community opposes the participation and speeches of the said Swamiji in the proposed event which cannot be permitted to be conducted by the petitioner by inviting the said Swamiji. He would however submit that the respondents do not have any objection for the programme/event to be conducted peacefully subject to conditions imposed upon the petitioner and the organisations, in particular the non-participation of the aforesaid Swamiji of Kanneri Matha in the event as stated in the statement of objections. It was also submitted that the petitioner does not have locus standi to file the present petition which is liable to be dismissed.

6. I have given my anxious consideration to the rival submissions and perused the material on record.

7. A perusal of the material on record will indicate that the petitioner claims to be the President of the Basavadi Shiva Sharana Bruhat Hindu Samavesha Utasava Samiti, Basavakalyana, which submitted a letter/request dated 31.05.2026 proposing to hold a convention/ programme to Sri Basaveshwara Devasthanana Pancha Committee seeking permission to conduct the convention/programme on 28.06.2026 at Akkamahadevi College premises. By letter dated 04.06.2026, the said committee granted permission in favour of the petitioner subject to the condition that none of the Swamijis attending the event should use any derogatory language at the event/programme. In pursuance of the said permission granted in favour of the petitioner, an application dated 05.06.2026 was submitted to respondent No.3-Tahsildar seeking permission for procession and convention on 28.06.2026 proposing Akkamahadevi College grounds or alternatively Basaveshwara ITI Auditorium with detailed route and timings. In pursuance of the said request/application submitted to respondent No.3, the respondent No.3 obtained a report dated 10.06.2026 from respondent No.4 - Police Sub-Inspector, who stated that due to opposition of certain Mathadhipathis/organisations to one of the invitees, i.e., the aforesaid Kanneri Matha Swamiji as an invitee, permission should not be granted for conducting the said event/programme. Accordingly, respondent No.3 issued the impugned endorsement rejecting the permission sought for by the petitioner, who is before this Court by way of the present Petition.

8. A perusal of the impugned endorsement at Annexure-A dated 11.06.2026 will indicate that the permission sought for by the petitioner to conduct procession the event on 28.06.2026 has been rejected/ refused by respondent No.3 – Tahsildar on the ground that the aforesaid Kanneri Matha Swamiji uses provocative derogatory and insulting expressions in his speeches and since he was an invitee, certain Lingayat organizations Basava followers, Lingayath religious leaders, Basava organizations etc. had objected to the said Swamiji participating in the event which would result in law and order problems. In this context, it is pertinent to note that when the matter

came up before this Court on 18.06.2026, the following interim order was passed:

"Learned counsel for the petitioner is directed to file affidavit of the petitioner and the pontiff named in Annexure-A answering the concerns expressed in Annexure-A.

2. Sri Vijayakumar, learned AAG appearing for the respondent/State submits that though there is injunction operating, issued by the Civil Court, injunction the pontiff named in Annexure-A not to engage in any defamatory statements, the same is continued in violation of the injunction order. Learned AAG seeks time to file objections to the petition.

3. Considering that the program for which permission is denied is scheduled to be held on 28.06.2026, list this matter on 22.06.2026."

9. Subsequently, the petitioner filed affidavits of both the petitioner as well as the aforesaid Swamiji which are as under:

Affidavit of the petitioner:

"AFFIDAVIT

Herein 1 Gundu Reddy Kamalapure S/o Ramannna, Age; 50 years, Occ; Service, No 1/97, Hanumantha Wadi Taluka, Basava Kalyana Rajeshwar-585331 do here by state on solemnly affirmation on oath as follows:-

- 1) I am the petitioner in above case, I know the facts of the case, hence I swear to this affidavit.
- 2) I state that Samiti has organized the convention on 28-6-2026 in which thousands of devotees will participate including likeminded Swamijis and one of the invitee is Sri Adrushya Kadeshwara Swami. I state that permission is refused arbitrarily.
- 3) I state that in terms of the direction issued by this Hon'ble High court, I state that Sri Adrushya Kadeshwara Swami will not use vulgar words against other swamijis who have bent upon to divide Hindu religions for oblique motive.
- 4) I state that convention and procession will be conducted peacefully and without disturbance. Hence this affidavit.

Affidavit of Shri Adrushyakadeshvar Gurumuppinakadeshvar Swami:

"AFFIDAVIT

I Shri Adrushyakadeshvar Gurumuppinakadeshvar Swami, age 62 years, Indian National, Mathadish Kaneri Math, Kaneri, Kolhapur, Karvir, Maharashtra 416 234, today at Kansarpal, Latambarcem, Bicholim Goa do here by state on solemnly affirmation on oath as follows:-

- 1) I have been informed by Sri Gundu Reddy Kamalapure the petitioner in the above writ petition regarding the filing of affidavit, hence this affidavit.
- 2) I state that I have been invited for the convention to be held on 28-6-2026 at Basava kalyana organized by petitioner herein. Similar conventions were held recently at Babaleshwara, Banahatti, Shapur and Gadag in which I have addressed the gatherings in the presence of Lingyat Peethadhipaties. I state that these gatherings are meant to unite Hindus under one umbrella as against persons propagating Ligayat caste as separate religion. I state that in the said places no untoward incidents are reported and everything went on peacefully.
- 3) I state that the Karnataka Lingayat Vakkuta has already filed suit against me in which I have filed counter claim. The Ld Court has passed restraint order which is in operation as on today. Hence I don't intend to violate the same. I state that expression of free opinion and thoughts and constructive criticism of any person or organization without vulgar words is part of freedom of speech which is my constitutional right.
- 4) I state that the Plaintiff has filed application under Order 39 Rule 2A CPC against me and the same will be contested and decided based on the recording of evidence. I state that I don't use any vulgar words or provocative words however provocative words cannot be tested based on mind of weak person
- 5) I state that in aforesaid places such permission were granted in which I participated, In Basava kalyana, the senior Political leader of present dispensation is behind refusal of permission who does not want me to grace the convention and procession.
- 6) I state that I will not address the convention by using vulgar words or provocative words but it will be thought provoking. Hence this affidavit."

10. It is also pertinent to note that in the statement of objections filed by the respondents, they have specifically stated that they had no objection in principle to the petitioner holding the proposed programme on 28.06.2026 subject to compliance of certain conditions by stating as hereunder:

"4. It is respectfully submitted that this Respondent has no objection in principle to the Petitioner holding the proposed Basavadi Shiva Sharanara Hindu Samavesha programme on 28.06.2026. The position of this Respondent is clear and limited that is, permission for the programme will be granted only if the organisers agree to follow, and undertake to abide by, the conditions set out hereinbelow, which are necessary in the interest of public peace, public order, and the safety of all concerned. The said conditions set out below are not prohibitory in nature; they are reasonable terms upon the fulfilment of which permission the would be granted.

17. It is submitted that, having regard to the application made by the Petitioner and the situation prevailing on the ground, this Respondent is of the considered view that the proposed programme can be permitted subject to the following conditions being complied with, and that, upon the organisers accepting these conditions and submitting a fresh application in conformity with them, permission for the programme will accordingly be granted. The

conditions are, namely:

- (a) that the programme be conducted peacefully for a gathering of up to 1,000 persons, and that no procession will be permitted, keeping in mind the limited police force available;
- (b) that the proceedings on the stage be limited to two hours, prior to 7:00 p.m.;
- (c) that no person shall make any hate speech at the event;
- (d) that no act or statement that may endanger law and order shall be made during the programme;
- (e) that no damage shall be caused to Government or private property;
- (f) that the organisers shall engage sufficient volunteers to ensure the smooth and peaceful conduct of the programme;
- (g) that no abusive language, shouting, or insult to any political figure, religious leader, or religious or ethnic group shall be permitted during the programme;
- (h) that the organisers shall be responsible and liable if law and order is disturbed during the event;
- (i) that Sri Kadasiddheshwara Swamiji of Kanneri Math, Kolhapur, against whom apprehensions of breach of peace have been expressed, be not permitted to participate in the programme;"

11. As can be seen from the aforesaid statement of objections, it is the specific stance of the respondents that they had no objection for conducting of the said event by the petitioner subject to the aforesaid conditions. However, one of the conditions put forth by the respondents is that the aforesaid Kanneri Matha Swamiji should not be permitted to participate in the programme; in this regard it is pertinent to note that as stated supra, both the petitioner and the Swamiji have filed affidavits categorically/specifically undertaking that they would not cause any law and order problem during the event if the aforesaid Swamiji is permitted to participate in the programme. In addition thereto, the aforesaid Swamiji has filed yet another affidavit dated 24.06.2026 which reads as under:

"AFFIDAVIT

Herein I Adrushya Kadeshwara Swami, Aged 62 years, Indian National, Mathadish Kaneri Math, Kaneri, Kolhapur, Karvir, Maharashtra 416 234, today at Kansarpal, Latambarcem, Bicholim Goa do here by state on solemnly affirmation on oath as follows:-

- 1) I have been informed by Sri Gunde Reddy Kamalpure the petitioner in the above writ petition regarding the filing of affidavit, hence this Affidavit.
- 2) I state that I have been invited for the convention to be held on 28-6-2026 at Basava kalyana organized by petitioner herein. Similar conventions were held recently at Babaleshwara, Banahatti, Shapur and Gadag in which I have addressed the gatherings in the presence of Lingyat Peethadhipaties. I state that these gatherings are meant to unite Hindus under one umbrella as against persons propagating Ligayat caste as separate religion. I state that in the said places no untoward incidents are reported and everything went on peacefully.
- 3) In terms of order and directions of this Hon'ble High Court, I state as under:-
 - a. I shall not speak in the upcoming event on 28/06/2026 to be conducted by the petitioner.
 - b. I shall not incite and instigate any other person to speak on my behalf.
 - c. I shall not create law and order problem on account of my presence.
 - d. I take sole responsibility of law and order created on account of my presence in the event."

12. A perusal of the impugned endorsement will indicate that respondent No.3 has specifically stated that Lingayath Mathadhipatigala Okkoota had objected to the said event/programme being conducted by the petitioner; in fact, the said organization has instituted a suit in O.S.No. 7593 of 2025 against the aforesaid Sri Adrushya Kadeshwara Swamiji of Kanneri Matha for permanent injunction restraining him from making any more defamatory and derogatory statements against the plaintiffs and its members in public and/or in any other print media, digital media and social media. In the said suit, which is being contested by the said defendant/Swamiji who has also put forth a counter claim, the trial Court has passed an ad interim ex parte order of temporary injunction dated 31.10.2025 against the aforesaid defendant/Swamiji and his agents, followers, associates or any other person acting on his behalf or claiming through him from making any defamatory, derogatory or disparaging statements, whether in public through print media, digital media or on social media platforms against the plaintiffs.

13. In addition to the aforesaid affidavits of undertakings filed by the petitioner and the two affidavits filed by the aforesaid Swamiji specifically undertaking that he would not speak about or give any speech or use any expression during the event, the learned counsel for the petitioner would also submit on instructions that the said Swamiji would be merely an invitee and participate in the programme and would not speak or give speeches by himself or through anyone else and also comply with not only the undertaking given by him in the affidavit referred to supra, but also would comply with and abide by the order of temporary injunction passed against him in O.S.No.7593 of 2025.

14. As stated earlier, the primary reason for the respondent No.3 to issue the impugned endorsement, thereby declining/refusing to grant permission in favour of the petitioner to conduct the event/programme on 28.06.2026 is by referring to the objections raised by Lingayat organizations, Committees, etc. and the alleged incidents of the said Swamiji using provocative, derogatory and insulting expressions in his speeches which would result in law and order problem; however, the cumulative effect of the affidavit filed by the petitioner, the two affidavits filed by the said Swamiji who has categorically/unconditionally stated that he would merely attend the event as an invitee and shall not give any speech or speak anything either by himself or through anyone else nor would he instigate

or incite anyone else to give any speech and comply with and abide by the order of temporary injunction passed against him which he has undertaken to comply with is sufficient to come to the conclusion that the impugned endorsement deserves to be stayed by permitting the petitioner to conduct the event subject to certain conditions.

15. A perusal of the impugned order will indicate that as stated supra, the primary ground for refusing to grant permission in favour of the petitioner to conduct the programme/event on 28.06.2026 is by taking into account the alleged antecedents of the aforesaid Kanneri Math Swamiji who is stated to be using derogatory, insulting and provocative expressions against Basava followers, Lingayat religious leaders, Basava Organisations and persons advocating a separate Lingayat religious identity which has generated widespread resentment among members of the Lingayat community and had led to strong protests, public criticism and counter-statements in various districts and if the aforesaid Swamiji participates in the programme/event, it may result in serious law and order problems including demonstrations, black flag protests, counter-mobilisation, obstruction of public meetings, breach of peace and possible clashes between rival groups.

16. However, having regard to the facts and circumstances obtaining in the instant case as noticed supra, including the affidavits filed by not only the petitioner but also the aforesaid Swamiji and the conditions imposed upon the said Swamiji who has unconditionally and categorically undertaken not to give any speech either through himself or through anyone else, the apprehension of the respondents in this regard for the purpose of passing the impugned order has clearly been allayed as borne out from the material on record and as such, I am of the prima facie view that the impugned order deserves to be stayed and the petitioner be permitted to conduct the programme/event on 28.06.2026 and the aforesaid Kanneri Math Swamiji be permitted to physically participate in the said programme/event subject to certain conditions.

17. In the result, the following:

ORDER

(i) The impugned endorsement at Annexure-A dated 11.06.2026 issued by respondent No.3 – Tahsildar is stayed pending disposal of the petition.

(ii) The petitioner is permitted to conduct the event/programme on 28.06.2026 as sought for by the petitioner and the aforesaid Sri Adrushya Kadeshwara Swamiji of Kanneri Math shall be permitted to physically attend and participate in the said event/ programme subject to conditions.

(iii) The respondents shall permit the petitioner to conduct the event and also permit the aforesaid Kanneri Math Swamiji to physically participate in the event/ progamme subject to certain conditions.

(iv) The respondents shall not restrain, prevent or prohibit petitioner from conducting the event/programme or prevent, restrain or prohibit the aforesaid Swamiji from physically attending and participating in the said event on 28.06.2026.

(v) The petitioner and the aforesaid Sri Adrushya Kadeshwara Swamiji would strictly comply with and abide by the undertaking given in the affidavits submitted by them and shall ensure that no law and order problem would be caused at the event/programme to be conducted on 28.06.2026.

(vi) The aforesaid Swamiji shall strictly comply with the order of temporary injunction passed against him in O.S.No.7593 of 2025 by the trial Court.

(vii) The said Swamiji would be entitled to physically attend and participate in the event but shall not speak or give any speech either by himself or through anyone else at the event/programme on 28.06.2026.

(viii) The programme be conducted peacefully for a gathering of up to 2,500 persons, and that no procession shall be permitted, keeping in mind the limited police force available.

(ix) No person shall make any hate speech at the event.

(x) No act or statement that may endanger law and order shall be made during the programme by anyone.

(xi) No damage shall be caused to Government or private property.

(xii) The organisers shall engage sufficient volunteers to ensure the smooth and peaceful conduct of the programme.

(xiii) No abusive language, shouting, or insult to any political figure, religious leader, or religious or ethnic group shall be permitted during the programme by anyone.


(xiv) The organisers shall be responsible and liable if law and order is disturbed during the event.

List on 01.07.2026.

2	<u>23/06/2026</u>	S.R.KRISHNA KUMAR	ADJOURNED
	Re-list on 24.06.2026. for orders on interim relief at 2.30 P.M.		
3	<u>22/06/2026</u>	S.R.KRISHNA KUMAR	ADJOURNED

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that pursuant to the interim order dated 18.06.2026, the petitioner has filed his affidavit as well as the affidavit of Sri.Adrushyakadeshvar Gurumuppinakadeshvar Swami.
 Learned Advocate General appearing for the respondents seeks time to file counter affidavit to the aforesaid affidavit filed on behalf of petitioner.
 Re-list on 23.06.2026 at 2:30 p.m.,

4	<u>22/06/2026</u>	S.R.KRISHNA KUMAR	ADJOURNED
Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that pursuant to the interim order dated 18.06.2026,			

5	<u>18/06/2026</u>	K V ARAVIND	NOTICE
 View Order			

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