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

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WP(C) No. 40608 of 2025

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Dated this the 10th day of November, 2026

O R D E R

Raja Vijayaraghavan V, J.

Today, when the matter is taken up for consideration, Sri. Sasidharan, IPS, the officer heading the Special Investigation Team, has placed before this Court a report setting out the progress of the investigation.

2. From the report we find that the Assistant Legal Advisor has approved the draft charge and furnished legal advice on 09.11.2026. He points out that accused Nos. 3, 8, 11 and 12 are public servants and that, consequently, sanction under Section 19(1)(c) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, is required before the Court can take cognizance of the offences alleged against them. Accordingly, a report in the prescribed form seeking the requisite sanction has been submitted to the Secretary, Revenue (Devaswom) Department, through the Additional Director General of Police (Crimes).

3. As regards accused Nos. 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 13, it is submitted that the Devaswom Board is their appointing authority. Accordingly, a report in the prescribed form, seeking sanction under Section 19(1)(c) of the Prevention of

Corruption Act, 1988, as amended by the Act of 2018, has been submitted to the Devaswom Board through the Additional Director General of Police (Crimes). Let the matter be expedited so that the trial proceedings can commence without further delay.

4. It is further reported that 13 persons have been arrayed as accused in the final report. To establish the prosecution case, as many as 350 witnesses have been cited. The final report is also accompanied by a list of 285 documents and 12 material objects.

5. The officer heading the Special Investigation Team submits that the final report will be filed before the jurisdictional Court upon receipt of the requisite prosecution sanctions.

6. Insofar as Crime No. 3700 of 2025 is concerned, the Investigating Officer submits that the investigation has reached the last lap and he has assured us that the same will be finalised and requests be submitted for obtaining prosecution sanction.

Post on 02.12.2026.

sd/-
RAJA VIJAYARAGHAVAN V,
JUDGE

sd/-
K.V. JAYAKUMAR,
JUDGE

APM