**IN THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA AT ERNAKULAM**

**PRESENT**

**THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE DEVAN RAMACHANDRAN**

**&**

**THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE BASANT BALAJI**

**FRIDAY, THE 13TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2026 / 22ND KARTHIKA, 1948**

**DBP NO. 98 OF 2026**

***IN THE MATTER OF GURUVAYUR DEVASWOM - COMPLAINT ALLEGING HARASSMENT OF DEVOTEES, DISCRIMINATION, AND MISMANAGEMENT BY GURUVAYUR DEVASWOM STAFF - SUO MOTU PROCEEDINGS INITIATED BASED ON A COMPLAINT BY SMT.PATHMAPRABHA - REG.***

**PETITIONER/COMPLAINANT:**

**SUO MOTU**
**NIL**
**BY ADV NIL**

**RESPONDENTS:**

**1** **STATE OF KERALA**
**REPRESENTED BY THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,**
**REVENUE (DEVASWOM) DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT SECRETARIATE,**
**THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695001**

**2** **GURUVAYUR DEVASOM MANAGING COMMITTEE**
**GURUVAYUR DEVASWOM, GURUVAYUR, PIN - 680 101,**
**REPRESENTED BY ITS ADMINISTRATOR**

**3** **COMMISSIONER**
**GURUVAYUR DEVASWOM, GOVERNMENT SECRETARIATE,**
**THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695 001**

**BY ADVS.**
**GOVERNMENT PLEADER**
**SHRI.K.R.SUNIL, SPL.GP (DEVASWOM)**

**OTHER PRESENT:**

**SRI.T.K.VIPINDAS, SC**

**THIS DEVASWOM BOARD PETITION HAVING COME UP FOR ADMISSION ON 13.11.2026, ALONG WITH DBP.112/2026, THE COURT ON THE SAME DAY DELIVERED THE FOLLOWING:**

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA AT ERNAKULAM**

**PRESENT**

**THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE DEVAN RAMACHANDRAN**

**&**

**THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE BASANT BALAJI**

**FRIDAY, THE 13TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2026 / 22ND KARTHIKA, 1948**

**DBP NO. 112 OF 2026**

***IN THE MATTER OF GURUVAYUR DEVASWOM- COMPLAINT REGARDING MISCONDUCT, VERBAL ABUSE AND THREAT BY GURUVAYUR DEVASWOM STAFF- SUO MOTU PROCEEDINGS INITIATED BASED ON A COMPLAINT BY SRI.BIBIN VASUDEVAN REG.***

**PETITIONER/COMPLAINANT:**

**SUO MOTU**
**X**
**BY ADV NIL**

**RESPONDENTS:**

1 **STATE OF KERALA**
**REPRESENTED BY THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, REVENUE (DEVASWOM) DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT SECRETARIATE, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695 001**

2 **GURUVAYUR DEVASWOM MANAGING COMMITTEE**
**GURUVAYUR DEVASWOM, GURUVAYUR, PIN - 680 101,**
**REPRESENTED BY ITS ADMINISTRATOR**

3 **COMMISSIONER**
**GURUVAYUR DEVASWOM, GOVERNMENT SECRETARIATE, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695 001**

**BY ADVS.**
**GOVERNMENT PLEADER**
**SHRI.K.R.SUNIL, SPL.GP (DEVASWOM)**
**SRI.T.K.VIPINDAS, SC**

**THIS DEVASWOM BOARD PETITION HAVING COME UP FOR ADMISSION ON 13.11.2026, ALONG WITH DBP.98/2026, THE COURT ON THE SAME DAY DELIVERED THE FOLLOWING:**

**"C.R."**

**JUDGMENT**
**[DBP Nos.98/2026, 112/2026]**

Devan Ramachandran, J.

These DBPs have been registered on the basis of letters, in the nature of complaints, received from two devotees of the Guruvayur Temple.

2. The letters detail instance of alleged harassment meted out not only to the complainants, but also to other devotees.

3. The imputations are rather general and omnibus in nature; though certain specifics have been mentioned with respect to the complainants.

4. There can be no quarrel or cavil with the proposition that every devotee visiting the Temple is required to be cared for and treated with acme degree of decorum and respect.

5. Temple employees at every level are required to act with the highest degree of equanimity; and ought not to lose their temper, or show anger towards any devotee.

6. When we say this, we cannot also be oblivious to the situation that crowd control in a Temple like Guruvayur, prevents great degree of difficulty. Every devotee would like to spend as much time as possible in front of the deity; while, it is for the employees to ensure that the queue moves, there being hundreds others waiting for darshan.

7. It certainly requires, therefore, a fine balance between the rival interests; but whatever be the reason or provocation, an altercation or bad behaviour on the part of any employee cannot be countenanced.

8. At this time, Sri. T.K. Vipindas – learned Standing Counsel for the Guruvayur Devaswom Board, intervened to say that, though his client would ensure implicit compliance of the afore observations without fail; there were also instances in the past, when some devotees unfairly created provocation - leading in one case, even to a stabbing incident.

9. Undoubtedly, the responsibility and obligation of civility is mutual. But, if heated situations are not properly controlled, things may spiral out of control, which will be the deleterious to the pious and sanctified atmosphere of the Temple.

Since Sri. Vipindas undertakes that our observations above will be fully implemented by the Devaswom Board, we deem no further directions necessary in these DBPs; and they are consequently closed.

**SD/-**
**DEVAN RAMACHANDRAN**
**JUDGE**

**SD/-**
**BASANT BALAJI**
**JUDGE**

JS