

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA AT ERNAKULAM

PRESENT

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE ANIL K.NARENDRAN

&

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE K. BABU

Tuesday, the 7th day of September 2021 / 16th Bhadra, 1943

DBP NO. 17 OF 2021

IN THE MATTER OF GURUVAYOOR DEVASWOM BOARD - MATTER PERTAINING TO GURUVAYOOR
TEMPLE - SUO MOTU PROCEEDINGS INITIATED AS PER NEWS ITEM APPEARED IN THE ONLINE
MEDIA - REG:

PETITIONER:

SUO MOTU

RESPONDENT:

THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

GURUVAYOOR DEVASWOM BOARD, THRISSUR

BY SRI. T.K. VIPINDAS, SC, GURUVAYOOR DEVASWOM BOARD

THE DEVASWOM BOARD PETITION HAVING COME UP FOR ORDERS ON 07/09/2021,
UPON PERUSING THE PETITION, THE COURT ON THE SAME DAY PASSED THE
FOLLOWING.



ANIL K. NARENDRAN & K. BABU, JJ.

DBP No.17 of 2021

Dated this the 7th day of September, 2021

ORDER

Anil K. Narendran, J.

This suo motu proceedings is registered, since a news item appeared in an online media regarding certain activities undertaken in the Nadappanthal in front of Guruvayoor Temple, in connection with the wedding of the son of an industrialist, Sri. Ravi Pillai, which is scheduled to be held on 09.09.2021. As per the photographs in that online report huge cutouts, branches of trees, etc., are used for decorating the Nadappanthal.

At 4.00 p.m. on 06.09.2021, the learned Standing Counsel for Guruvayoor Devaswom Board, on instructions, submitted that the cutouts, branches of trees, etc., used for decorating the Nadappanthal had already been removed. The learned Standing Counsel has also made available for the perusal of this Court, two photographs of the Nadappanthal taken on 06.09.2021 at 3.15. p.m. The learned Standing Counsel sought time to get instructions as to the permissions, if any, granted in connection with the marriage in question to decorate the Nadappanthal in front of Guruvayoor Temple.

Today, when this matter is taken up consideration, the learned Standing Counsel, on instructions, would submit that, on 12.02.2021, the Managing Committee of Guruvayoor Devaswom has taken a resolution to permit 'pushpalangharam' in the Nadappanthal, in connection with the marriage in question. No permission has been granted for decorating the Nadappanthal with cutouts, branches of trees, etc. The learned Standing Counsel would submit further that, as pointed out on 06.09.2021, every day about 110 marriages are being conducted in the Nadappanthal, in front of Guruvayoor Temple, in strict conformity with Covid-19 protocol. Each marriage party is permitted to have only 12 persons, excluding Bride and Bridegroom.

Having considered the materials on record and also the submissions made by the learned Standing Counsel for Guruvayoor Devaswom Board, we deem it appropriate to direct the Administrator of Guruvayoor Devaswom Managing Committee to file an affidavit explaining the facts and circumstances in which the Nadappanthal in front of Guruvayoor Temple was decorated with huge cutouts, branches of trees, etc., as seen from the photographs in the online media report.

The affidavit shall be placed on record by 13.09.2021.

The Administrator shall take necessary steps to ensure that there is no violation of Covid-19 protocol in the conduct of marriages in the Nadappanthal in front of Guruvayoor Temple.

List on 14.09.2021.

Sd/-

**ANIL K. NARENDRAN,
Judge**

Sd/-

**K. BABU,
Judge**



MIN