

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA AT ERNAKULAM  
PRESENT  
THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE RAJA VIJAYARAGHAVAN V  
&  
THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE K. V. JAYAKUMAR**

**Wednesday, the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of December 2025 / 12th Agrahayana, 1947**

**WP(C) NO. 40608 OF 2025(A)**

**PETITIONER:**

- 1. SUO MOTU AS PER THE ORDER DATED 21.10.2025 IN SSCR 23/2025 REGARDING THE HEIST AND PLUNDERING OF GOLD FROM THE GOLD-CLADDED DWARAPALAKAS PLACED ON EITHER SIDE OF THE SREEKOVIL, SABARIMALA, PIN - 682031**

**RESPONDENTS:**

- 1. THE STATE OF KERALA, REPRESENTED BY THE PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, REVENUE (DEVASWOM) DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM , PIN - 695001**
- 2. THE TRAVANCORE DEVASWOM BOARD, REPRESENTED BY ITS SECRETARY, NANTHANCOD, KAWDIAR POST, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695003**
- 3. THE CHIEF VIGILANCE AND SECURITY OFFICER (SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE), TRAVANCORE DEVASWOM HEAD QUARTERS, NANTHANCOD, KAWDIAR POST, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695003**
- 4. THE STATE POLICE CHIEF, POLICE HEAD QUARTERS, VAZHUTHACAUD, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695010**
- 5. THE SENIOR DEPUTY DIRECTOR, KERALA STATE AUDIT DEPARTMENT, TRAVANCORE DEVASWOM BOARD, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695003.**

**BY GOVERNMENT PLEADER FOR R1 & R4**

**S.SREEKUMAR (SR.) along with SHRI.G.BIJU,STANDING COUNSEL FOR R2, R3 & R5**

**This petition coming on for orders upon perusing the petition and the affidavit filed in support of WP(C) and this court's order dated 5/11/2025, the court passed the following:**

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

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**W.P.(C) No. 40608 OF 2025**  
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**Dated this the 3rd day of December, 2025**

**ORDER**

**Raja Vijayaraghavan V., J.**

This order shall be read in continuation of the order dated 05.11.2025 passed by this Court.

2. Today, when the matter is taken up, Sri. Sasidharan S., the Officer investigating the crime, has placed before us the progress report in CB PS Cr. No. 3700/CB/CI-IV/D/2025 and CB PS Cr. No. 3701/2025/CB/CU-IV/D/2025.

3. We have perused the report submitted by the Investigating Officer and we express our satisfaction with the manner in which the investigation is presently being carried forward. Having regard to the sensitive nature, breadth, and ramifications of the inquiry, we find it inappropriate at this stage to place on record any detailed reference to the specific steps undertaken by the investigating agency.

4. It appears from the report that, in strict compliance with the directions issued by this Court on 05.11.2025, requisite samples were collected; however, the analysis reports have not yet been received. The Investigating Officer submits

that the forensic analysis report is expected within a week. It is further submitted that, insofar as the transactions of 2018 and 2019 relating to the main door of the Sreekovil and the subsequent series of transactions spanning 2014–2025 concerning the transportation to Chennai purportedly for gold plating the Dwarapalakas are concerned, the investigation continues to remain in its infancy. Given the volume, complexity, and inter-connected character of these transactions, and in view of the fact that the earlier order granting time to the Special Investigation Team provided only a six-week period, the Investigating Officer seeks further time to complete the investigation in a lawful and effective manner.

5. Having carefully examined the progress report and bearing in mind the scale, seriousness, and potential ramifications of the allegations under inquiry, we are of the view that the time sought by the Investigating Officer is justified and deserves to be granted. Accordingly, a further period of six weeks from today is granted to the Special Investigation Team to conclude the investigation.

6. We further deem it necessary to direct that the investigation shall be carried out with utmost meticulousness, leaving no aspect unattended or unexamined. Should the Investigating Agency, in the course of the investigation, stumble upon any facet, transaction, or material circumstance hitherto unnoticed

or undiscovered, the same shall be forthwith brought to the notice of this Court by filing an appropriate report. This direction has become imperative, as the subject matter of the investigation concerns valuables and properties belonging to Lord Ayyappa, and it is the duty of this Court to ensure that such sacred property is duly protected and safeguarded.

7. While granting the SIT further time of six weeks to conclude the investigation, we once again remind the Investigating Officer and the Special Investigation Team to proceed with the investigation with uncompromising meticulousness, heightened diligence, and scrupulous adherence to every legal requirement.

Post on 05.01.2026.

Sd/-

**RAJA VIJAYARAGHAVAN V,  
JUDGE**

Sd/-

**K.V. JAYAKUMAR,  
JUDGE**

PS/3/12/25