

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CIVIL WRIT JURISDICTION
IA No_____ OF 2024
IN
WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) No. 1246/2024**

IN THE MATTER OF:-

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| ASHWINI UPADHYAY | | ...PETITIONER |
| | Vs. | |
| UNION OF INDIA & Ors. | | ...RESPONDENT |

AND IN THE MATTER OF:-

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| DRAVIDA MUNNETRA KAZHAGAM THROUGH RS Bharathi S/o Shri D.J. Raman, Former Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha Organizing Secretary, DRAVIDA MUNNETRA KAZHAGAM, 367-369, Anna Salai, Teynampet, Chennai- 18 | | ...APPLICANT |
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APPLICATION SEEKING INTERVENTION

TO,
THE HON'BLE CHIEF JUSTICE OF INDIA AND
HIS COMPANION JUDGES OF THE SUPREME COURT

THE HUMBLE APPLICATION OF
THE APPLICANT ABOVE NAMED

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:

1. That the present application is being preferred seeking intervention of the Applicant- Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (hereinafter referred as the "Applicant") as a party respondent in the aforesaid WP(C) No. 1946 of 2020.

That the above Writ Petition challenges Section 2, 3 and 4 of the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991 as unconstitutional being violative of the Articles 14, 15, 21, 25, 26, 29 of the Constitution of India.

2. That the Applicant Party is a registered political party founded in 1949 by our leader CN Annadurai for propagating social justice, equality and upliftment of individuals belonging to oppressed backward classes through constitutional means. The Applicant Party has been elected under the State Legislature under being the five-time ruling party in the State of Tamil Nadu and has formed the Union Government at the Centre. The Applicant formed the current State Government on 7th May 2021, by securing an absolute majority.
3. That the issues raised in the present Writ Petition are of great public importance and has a pan India ramification on the issue of places of worship concerning the minority religions in the country.
4. That the present Writ Petition seeks directions which would undermine the Right to Freedom of Religion and Right to Worship enshrined under the Articles 25, 26, 27 and 28 of the Constitution of India,
5. That the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991 was enacted with the intention to close any controversy with respect to place of worship that existed on 15th August, 1947. It is considered necessary to provide for the maintenance of the religious character of such place of worship as it existed in the 15th August, 1947. That, furthermore, the Act also intended to maintain communal harmony and peace between the citizens of India practicing different religions.
6. That this Hon'ble Court in the case of *M.Siddiq (D) Thr. LD's vs. Mahant Suresh Das & Ors. (2020) 1 SCC 1*, specified that the Act intended to secure the future of the country from communal conflicts.
7. That the issues raised in the present Writ Petition are of great public importance and has a pan India ramification on the issue of "places of worship" and rights of the minorities qua the freedom of religion, religious beliefs, right to worship as enshrined under the Articles 25, 26, 27 and 28 of the Constitution of India. In the light of the above said facts and circumstances, it is imperative that the "DRAVIDA MUNNETRA KAZHAGAM" to intervene in the instant Writ Petition, so that the necessary assistance may be given to this Hon'ble Court on the issue pertaining to the places of worship and support of the vires of the provisions of the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991.
8. The present application is made *bona fide* and in the interest of justice.

PRAYER

It is therefore, most respectfully prayed that this Hon'ble Court may graciously be pleaded to:

- 1) Allow the Applicant- Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam to intervene as a Respondent in the present WP(C) No.1246 of 2020 and place its submissions opposing the Writ Petition.

- 2) Pass any such order or orders as this Hon'ble Court may deem fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of the case.

AND FOR THIS ACT OF KINDNESS THE APPLICANT AS IN DUTY BOUND SHALL EVER PRAY.

FILED BY:

NEW DELHI

(G. INDIRA)

DATED: 12.12.2024

ADVOCATE FOR THE APPLICANT