

20 Office of H.R. E.Rd.

Annexure to B. G. 114-C & 10.11.47.

Application No. 99700/46.

Sri Ranganathaswami Devasthanam, Srirangam, Trichy district

The application is under sections 18 and 79-A of the

Act praying that the Board may be pleased to enforce the

duties of the Sathatha Vaishnavite mirasi servants of

Sri Ranganathaswami Devasthanam, Srirangam, of carrying th-

applicant Sri A.R. Sriranga Rajam Iyengar, who calls himse-

the Amuthanar in the Brahmaratham on the Iyarpa Sathumurai

Day in Adhyayana festival of the said devasthanam. The

petitioner says that it is a long established usage and

custom of the above temple, that on the close of the Iyarp

Sathumurai during the Adhyayana Festival, the Amuthanar is

to be carried in the Brahmaratham from the temple to his

house with all temple honours by the Sathatha Vaishnavite

servants of this temple. He alleges that during recent

years the said servants have without any justification

refused to perform this service. He further states that

this custom has been recently recognised by a resolution

of the trustees of the said devasthanam.

The resolution of the trustees referred to by the petitioner is Resolution No.4 passed at the meeting of the Board of Trustees of the said devasthanam held on 21.10.45, regarding the carrying of the Amuthanar in Brahmaratham by the Sathathavas. It runs as follows:

"Regarding the carrying Amuthanar in Brahmaratham by Sathathavas, the Executive Officer is requested to adjust their differences and see that the previous years' practice is followed, i.e. that Sathathavas carry Amuthanar in Brahmaratham as usual".

On receipt of the application, a report from the

Executive Officer of the devasthanam was called for.

The Executive Officer's report which is marked as R-1 in this case is to the effect that Sathathavas completely deny having carried the Amuthanar at any time, that the devasthanam is showing all the honours and giving him all emoluments that are due from the devasthanam as per dittam, that there is no record in the devasthanam as to who should carry the Amuthanar in Brahmaratham and as such the devasthanam cannot undertake the enforcement of the right claimed by the petitioner as it is a matter between the mirasi servants of the devasthanam and that they should be directed to settle their differences between themselves. Section 79-A gives powers to the Board to settle any dispute arising in respect of any usage of a math or temple or the rights, honours or emoluments and

perquisites to which any person may by custom or otherwise be entitled in such math or temple. The petitioner has not chosen to lead any evidence in respect of his alleged claim. He has merely filed an affidavit by himself in support of his case, which is marked as Ex. P-1. A person claiming any right must prove by satisfactory evidence that he is entitled to such right. Here there ^{is} no such evidence forthcoming on behalf of the applicant except his own averment. The Executive Officer of the devasthanam says that the Sathathavas completely deny having carried the Amathanar i.e. the ^{applicant} ~~petitioner~~ at any time. In these circumstances, we are ~~xxx~~ of opinion that the petitioner has not made out his case and as such the petition should be dismissed. It is dismissed according

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 Commissioner T

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 PRESIDENT.