

**NOTIFICATION OF THE PRL. DISTRICT AND SESSIONS
JUDGE AND ADMINISTRATOR, SRI. MALATESH TEMPLE
COMMITTEE, DEVARAGUDDA, RANEBENNUR FOR
APPOINTING COMMITTEE MEMBERS(PANCHAS).**

SUBJECT : Selection of the Panchas to the Sri.
Malatesh Temple Committee,
Devaragudda-reg...

READ : 1. Rules for the management of the
temple Shri Malatesh, At Devaragudda,
Tq: Ranebennur [(Bye-Law) C.S. No. 05
of 1906]

2. Order passed in W.P. 7100/2008, dtd.
04.03.2022 on the file of Hon'ble High
Court of Karnataka, Dharwad bench.

3. This Office Notification dtd. 27.06.2025
regarding inviting applications from
the public-devotee for appointment of
members to the Temple Committee as
per the Bye-law.

4. This Office Corrigendum Notification
dtd. 28.06.2025.

5. Order passed in W.P. No. 104279/2025
dtd. 03.07.2025 and 21.07.2025 by the
Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka,
Dharwad bench.

6. This fresh amended Notification dtd.
26.07.2025 as per the order of
Honourable High court in WP
104279/25, WA No.100451/25 and
Honourable Supreme Court SLP
No.21990/25.

7. Order dtd. 28.07.2025 passed in Writ
Appeal No. 100451 of 2025 by the
Hon'ble High Cout of Karnataka,
Dharwad bench.

8. Order passed in SLP(C) 21990/2025,

dtd. 08.08.2025 on the file of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

9. Applications received from the intended candidates for appointment of panchas to the Temple Committee.

This office issued a Notification dtd. 27.06.2025 inviting the applications from the public-devotees, for selection Panchas for five years to Sri. Malatesh Temple Committee, as per the Rules for the management of the temple Shri Malatesh, At Devaragudda, Tq: Ranebennur [(Bye-Law) C.S. No. 05 of 1906] in view of disposal off the W.P. 7100/2008 on dtd. 04.03.2022 by Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka, Dharwad bench.

After issuing the Notification dtd. 27.06.2025 One Sri. Devappa S/o. Guddappa Vasarad filed the W.P. No. 104279/2025 before the Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka, Dharwad bench wherein the Hon'ble High Court stayed the process of the Notification till next date of hearing.

On next date of hearing of the Writ Petition i.e. on 21.07.2025, the Hon'ble High Court permitted this Authority to continue the process of Notification by hearing the concerned parties including the petitioner and extending the time period for filing the last date of the application to the petitioner and the devotees and the impleading applicants to participate for giving opportunity.

Meanwhile, the Writ Petitioner filed Writ Appeal under No. W.A. 100451 of 2025 (GM-R/C) aggrieved by the interim order dtd. 21.07.2025 passed in W.P. No. 104279/2025. The said WA was disposed by the Hon'ble High Court of Karnatka

Dharwad bench on 28.07.2025 and ordered that any action taken by the learned Principal District and Sessions Judge, Dharwad pursuant to the order dated 21.07.2025 passed by the learned Single Judge, would be subject to final order to be passed by the learned Single Judge in the writ proceedings. The Writ Petitioner further approached the Hon'ble Supreme Court, aggrieved by the order dtd. 28.07.2025 passed in the above Writ Appeal, by filing Special Leave Petition (C) No. 21990/2025. However the Hon'ble Supreme Court dismissed said S.L.P. on 08.08.2025.

Since the Hon'ble High Court in WP No. 104279/25 has passed the order to extend the last date of hearing to file application by the petitioner and the devotees, this Authority issued amended Notification dtd. 26.07.2025 by extending the time to file application to the Petitioner and devotees up to 6 p.m. on 07.08.2025 and fixing the date of interview as 10/08/2025. In the notification dated 27/6/2025 it is mentioned that the selection will be done for the second category who are the devotees who donated for the temple by issuing notice to devotees basing on the documents of the temple. However in view of the directions of Hon'ble High court in WP No 104279/25 to extend time for enabling the devotees to file application for giving opportunities to devotees, amended notification is issued on 26/07/2025 calling for application even from the devotees who gave donations for class II category.

As per Bylaw the following are the four categories for which the applications were called.

1. Two posts for category I ie., local residents
2. Two posts for category II ie., devotees who donated for the temple.
3. Two posts for category III ie., village panchayat members.
4. Three posts for category IV ie., devotees.

This Authority also issued a notice dated 11/08/2025 to the Writ Petitioner in W.P. No. 104279/2025 directing him to present before this Authority on 13.08.2025, at 5:30 P.M., as per the directions of Hon'ble High court to hear the petitioner. Writ Petitioner refused to take notice and not appeared before the administrator on 13.08.2025. However on 13.08.2025 he came to the office at 3 pm and sought 15 days time to produce documents without contacting the administrator at 5.30pm. Hence on 14.08.2025, as an administrator I issued another notice to him giving 8 days time asking him to come on 22.08.2025 at 6 pm in person and say about his representation and to produce documents. Along with him notices were also issued to the earlier committee members viz., Sri P S MANJUNATH, SRI M M SATAGI, SRI NINGAPPA DODDA TIRAKAPPA MUDDI, SRI M L HIREGOUDAR, SRI M H BALAMMANAVAR, SMT PREMAKKA KUBERAPPA ATAWALAGI, SRI MALTHESH POOJAR, The Tahasildar, Ranebennur calling upon them to appear before me on 22/08/2025 at 6 pm., to say any thing about this process and to produce any documents. In addition to the same notices were also issued to the respondents in WP No. 104279/2025 ie., Sri Prakash Banakar, Ashok Channabasappa Niralg, Nagappa

Neelappa Samshi and Sri Sharana Basava Pakirappa Angadi asking them to appear before me on 22/08/2025 at 6pm., However the 2nd notice issued to the petitioner in WP N. 104279/2025 was not received by his wife when process staff went to give the same and the petitioner was not in the house. The wife of the petitioner has stated that her husband has instructed her not to take any notice and not to sign on any notice, if it comes. The petitioner did not appear before the administrator on 22/08/2025. All other notices issued to the above said persons were duly served. However among them Sri Prakash Banakar, Sri Sharana Basava Pakirappa Angadi, Ashok Channabasappa Niralg, Nagappa Neelappa Samshi came before the administrator on 22/08/2025 @ 6 pm. Sri Prakash Banakar and Sri Sharana Basava Pakirappa Angadi have stated that good committee members have to be elected and also Sri Sharana Basava Pakirappa Angadi gave the photos and details of the temple and residents of that area. Sri Prakash Ajjappa Banakar has also given in writing about the mismanagement of old committee and stated that total 10 panchas including Tahasildar and the details of panchas to be elected. It is stated that since 25 years people have fought for new committee and he has recommended Sri Sunil Ajjappa Banakar who is his brother who has filed applicaton has to be appointed as Committee member. Earlier committee member Sri P S Manjunath in response to the notice has sent letter stating that he is not the petitioner in WP and he has no knowledge about the same and has already given his opinion in person on 21/06/2025 in my office and he has also given his

opinion on 8/8/2025 regarding the notifications dated 27/6/2025 and 26/7/2025. In 8/8/2025 letter given by this P S Manjunath he has stated that the present committee duration is 2023-2028 for 5 years. As per bylaws new committee has to be formed in 2028 and notification issued on 27/06/2025 and 26/7/2025 for establishing the new committee is against the bylaws and hence new committee members have to be appointed only for the places where 2 committee members have died. In spite of interim orders in WP no. 104279/2025 by Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka and which is upheld by the division bench of Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka and Supreme Court and being an advocate, this earlier committee member has given such reply and asked the administrator to consider the same. Other committee members Sri Ningappa Doddattirakappa Muddi , Smt Premakka Kuberappa Atawalagi , Sri Malthesh Poojar have also given same type of representation as given by Sri P S Manjunath in writing and they did not appear before me. Except M L Hiregoudar earlier committee member, other committee members did not appear before me despite receiving notices. One of the committee members Sri Malthesh M Sathagi has given representation stating that he is not the party in WP and he does not know anything about the same and he has already appeared before me on 21/06/2025 and he has already explained and nothing more to say. Tahasildar also did not appear before the administrator on 22/08/2025.

The respondents in WP No. 104279/2025 who appeared before me has expressed that good committee members have to be appointed and they have fought for vacating the stay in the WP. Therefore I am of the opinion that the respondents in WP are only interested in the welfare of the temple and for appointment of good and able committee members. In the notice dated 14/08/2025 I have specifically mentioned that no further dates will be given after 22/08/2025 and requested all to appear on that day at 6pm., without fail. In the said notice I had also mentioned that in their absence as an administrator I will take exparte decision. Hence representations of the above said persons and their say were taken in to consideration for passing this order.

In addition the applications received after the due date ie., 07/08/2025 for filing the applicatons are not considered.

As per the Temple Committee bye-laws and order dtd. 21.07.2025 passed in W.P. 104279/2025 of Hon'ble High Court, as Administrator of Shri Malatesh Temple Committee, I have conducted the interview of the aspirants on 10.08.2025 and the following persons of different cast and community are selected as committee members (Panchas) under the four categories subject to the final orders Hon'ble High Court in WP NO 104279/25

Sl. No.	Description of the selected Panchas to the Temple committee	Category for which selected	Cast of the members.
1.	Sri Baramappa Yelu Koteppa Oormi, Devaragudda.	Category I	Kuruba

2.	Sri Prakash Shankarappa Ballary, Devargudda	Category I	Lingayatha.
3.	Sri Doddamani Panduranga Shetty, Hospete	Category II	Arya Vysya
4.	Sri Veeranagouda Andanagouda Patil, Betageri-Gadag	Category II	Lingayatha
5.	Sri Suresh M Talageri, Gram Panchayath Member of Devaragudda.	Category III	Kuruba
6.	Smt Sumangala Mailar, Gram Panchayath Member of Devaragudda.	Category III	SC.
7.	Sri Arun Dattatreya Joshi Advocate Dharwad	Category IV	Brahmin
8.	Sri Dyamannanavar Gavisidda Ranebennur	Category IV	Sc
9.	Goolappa Devagappanavar Haveri	Category IV	ST

The Tahasildar, Ranebennur is Ex-Officio member.

The above persons at Sl. No.s 1 to 4 & 7 and 8 now appointed as panchas ie., Committee members shall hold the office for a period of five years and Sl. No.s 5 and 6 shall hold office for a period till their present tenure of 4 months as members of village panchayat -Devergudda. Thereafter, Sl 5 & 6 panchas posts will automatically gets cancelled and administrator will appoint new 2 panchas under category III ie., for Village panchayath category from newly elected village

panchayath members by calling fresh applications. In case if any member give resignation or due to unavoidable circumstances if the posts of panchas become vacant during the tenure of 5 years of other three categories the administrator will appoint new panchas for that category by calling applications for the said posts as per bylaws.

The Tahasildar, Ranebennur is directed to call a meeting of the selected members as provided by the rules for the election of the office bearers and hand over the charge of the Temple Committee and keys of the hundies and to report the compliance immediately to the administrator.


(B.S. Bharathi),
Prl. District and Sessions Judge,
Dharwad and Administrator,
Sri. Malatesh Temple Committee,
Devaragudda, Ranebennur.

No. ADM:1083 : 2025.

District Court, Dharwad.

Dated: 23 -08-2025

Copy for information and necessary action to;

- (1) The Tahasildar, Ranebennur,
- (2) The Executive Officer, Shri Malatesh Temple Committee,
Devaragudda, Tq: Ranebennur.
- (3) Copy to all the members nominated