



Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt. Of India

Report on the Welfare Status of Temple Elephants in Madurai District, Tamil Nadu

Elephant Sundaravalli of Arulmigu Kallazhagar Thirukoil

Elephant Deivayanai of Arulmigu Subramaniaswamy Thirukoil

Elephant Maduravalli of Arulmigu Koodalagar Temple

Elephant Parvathi of Arulmigu Meenakshi Sundareshwar Temple



Elephant Deivayanai of Arulmigu Subramaniaswamy Thirukoil

November 2015

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Preface

The Order of the Hon'ble Madras HC dated 29.9.15 in the matter of WP.No.28793 of 2013 - Mrs. Radha Rajan Vs State of Tamil Nadu (in respect of Temple goshalas and temple elephants in Tamil Nadu) - the Hon'ble Court has directed in paragraph 2 as under:

“2. We would like to observe the functioning as established for some time and call upon the Animal Welfare Board of India to periodically carry out checks and submit their independent report both in respect of Ghoslas and the temple maintained elephants so that we have an independent assessment as to whether this system is working or not. For the inspection to be carried out by the Animal Welfare Board of India, the temple authorities and the Ghoslas will render all assistance.”

The AWBI mandate above was communicated to WRRC and to fulfil the same, a workshop was organised in Chennai on October 19, 2015, on the parameters to evaluate the welfare and health status of elephants in captivity in temples in Tamil Nadu. The workshop was conducted by WRRC (Wildlife Rescue & Rehabilitation Centre) and was attended by a team of 15 Honorary Animal Welfare Inspectors (HAWOs), who were identified for fulfilling AWBI's mandate of temple elephant inspections in 12 districts of Tamil Nadu.

The HR & CE Department (Hindu Religious & Charitable Endowment) of TN circulated a list of approximately 38 elephants in the districts of Madurai, Trichy, Sivagangal, Thirunelveli, Tuticorin, Chennai, Kancheepuram, Tiruvannamalai, Thanjavur, Kumbakonam, Nagapattinam, and Coimbatore. The list of elephants and mahouts were also submitted by the Department to the Court, so that the inspection exercise could start.

Vide E-mail dated 11.11.2015 from the AWBI, WRRC members – Dr. Shiela Rao, Subramaniam Santakumar and Suparna Ganguly - were directed to inspect the temples in Madurai district on 14th November, 2015. We were assisted by Dr Jayakrishna, local veterinarian, whose support was greatly appreciated.

Elephants in temples in Tamil Nadu can be separated into two categories – one owned or in the custody of temples registered with the HR & CE and the other in the possession of private individuals who rent them out to temples or use them in private functions like temple festivals, marriages, processions and interstate transfers – both legal and illegal.

There are approximately 80-100 elephants in captivity in Tamil Nadu. Of these, the majority is in private custody. There is negligible monitoring by any Department, be it the State Forest Department (Wildlife) or the HR & CE. The owners and custodians commit multiple violations starting from the acquisition, transport, use, abuse leading to eventual untimely and painful death of the elephant.

It is quite incomprehensible as to why the laws are bent, broken and manipulated by the law keepers like bureaucrats and officials to accommodate the whims and demands of institutions and agencies to procure elephants only to have those undergoing untimely deaths and torturous lives. The Wildlife Protection Act, though comprehensive in many respects, has ambiguous sections with respect to captive elephants. However, the State is expected to protect the interests and welfare of the elephants rather than the welfare of the agencies that hold them in custody.

Acknowledgements

We sincerely thank the officials and staff of the four temples for their co-operation and support. Without their active engagement, we would not have been able to complete the inspections within the stipulated time frame.

We also thank the participation of Dr. Jay Krishna, from Madurai, who helped the WRRC team to complete the same and also helped us with transport and other logistics.

We thank Ms. Shilpa Mahbubani from Compassion Unlimited Plus Action (CUPA) Bangalore for helping with the design of this report.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that female elephants are kept together instead of in isolation, which seems to be the norm in most temples. Elephants are social animals and condemning them to a life of isolation is the worst form of abuse.

Some temples do have space around their premises which are suitable for keeping elephants in a more stress-free environment. The Arulmigu Subramaniaswamy Thirukoil, Thirupparangkundram, Madurai District, is one such temple which has a large orchard, with many trees and forest land surrounding it. The land belongs to the H R & C E Dept. The authorities should consider moving elephants from all temples in the district to one such area, and follow a different form of management.

The elephants inspected had no opportunity for chain free movement. This needs to be reversed and enclosures built for them to keep chain free and also sent for grazing or browsing. If such spaces are unavailable, then the temple should be barred from keeping elephants. In the wild, the elephant is walking and feeding for 18-20 hours a day. If such basic biological and behavioral norms are reversed or altered, then the animals go through unending stress, leading to increased ill health and mortality.

All the four elephants inspected had limited exercise and in some cases, like Maduravalli, no opportunity for walking at all. The sores and foot rot that the latter is suffering from is a direct result of the unhealthy and abusive lifestyle that she has been subject to for decades.

All the temples inspected seemed to have little or no knowledge of elephant keeping, beyond the basic interest of using them for religious activities. The authorities left all decision making to the mahouts, who need guidance at all levels by their owners.

Since such engagement with experts, scientists and mahouts are totally missing from the side of temple authorities, it is recommended that elephants are gradually phased out of religious institutions.

The recent Supreme Court Order dated 08-Dec-2015 mentions the following:

“At this juncture, we may direct that the Chief Wild Life Warden, Government of Rajasthan shall see to it that all steps, as provided under the law, are taken so that the elephants are really not treated with cruelty which eventually may amount to torture.”

Welfare Violations by Temple Authorities in 4 Temples Of Madurai District Inspected By AWBI on 14th November 2015

1. Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960

Section 11, (f) & (h) PCA Act 1960 - Keeping an elephant continuously tethered. This states that it is cruelty to animals if any person “keeps for an unreasonable time any animal chained or tethered upon an unreasonably short or unreasonably heavy chain or cord”.

2. Guidelines for Care and Management of Captive Elephants PE 2008 - “keeping for unreasonable time, an elephant chained or tethered upon an unreasonable short or unreasonably heavy chain or cord” is tantamount to cruelty to elephants and is prohibited. As outlined by Tamil Nadu’s Principal Chief Conservator of Forests in a Circular , *“The elephant should not be tethered with chain and hobbles on 2 or 3 legs simultaneously which will cause arthritis problem to the elephant”*.

3. CZA Zoo Rules, that states, *“The elephants should be kept tied only in one leg with chain/ rope covered by leather tubes, and the legs for tying may be changed alternately”*. Tethering an elephant by more than one leg appears to violate the same condition.

4. As per the Indian government’s guidelines of captive-elephant management, **as outlined by Tamil Nadu’s Principal Chief Conservator of Forests**, *“The elephant should not be tethered with chain and hobbles on 2 or 3 legs simultaneously which will cause arthritis problem to the elephant”*.

5. It also violates legal provisions which state that *“being the owner of [any animal], fails to provide such animal with sufficient food, drink or shelter”*. In all these cases, accessibility to water was controlled by the mahouts, and was not freely available to the elephant.

Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972

Only one temple had the ownership certificate for its elephant. In the other three temples the ownership certificates were absent. All temples had kept either two or three elephants before the present one, and in all cases, there were no papers for the earlier elephants.

In two cases, it was very clear that the elephants had been bought from the North Eastern States (either Assam or Arunachal Pradesh).

It is very clear that there is no application of mind by the PCCFs of the sending state nor of the receiving state, when permissions to transport an elephant are given. Though the guidelines are quoted, the authorities turn a blind eye to discrepancies in the documentation for the elephants entering the state.

Sec. 40 (2) No person shall, after commencement of this Act, acquire, receive, keep in his control, custody, or possession, sell, offer for sale or otherwise transfer or transport any animal specified in Schedule I or Part II of Schedule II... except with the previous permission in writing of the CWW or the authorised officer.

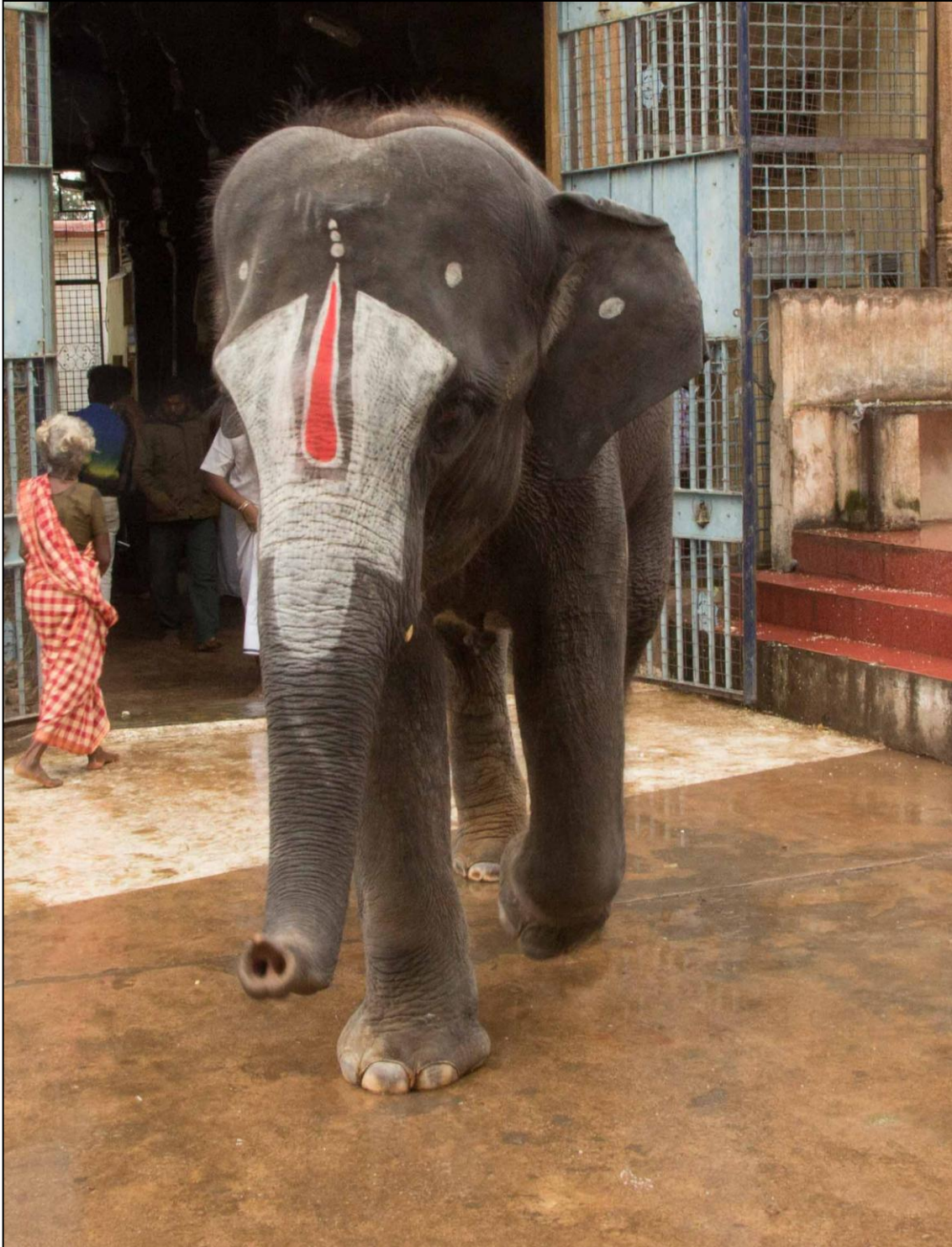
Sec 43 (1) No person having in his possession captive animal, animal article, trophy or uncured trophy in respect of which he has a certificate of ownership, shall transfer by way of

sale or offer for sale or by any other mode of consideration of commercial nature, such animal or article or trophy or uncured trophy

Declaration of Wildlife Stock Rules, 2003: Section 4 (2) The application under sub-rule (1) shall be presented in four complete sets within a period of 180 days from the date of publication of these Rules.

Elephant Sundaravalli

**From Arulmigu Kallazhagar Thirukoil, Alaghar Koil, Alaghar Road,
Melur Taluk, Madurai Town – 625301**



This elephant's walking space and living quarters are stone and concrete floors.

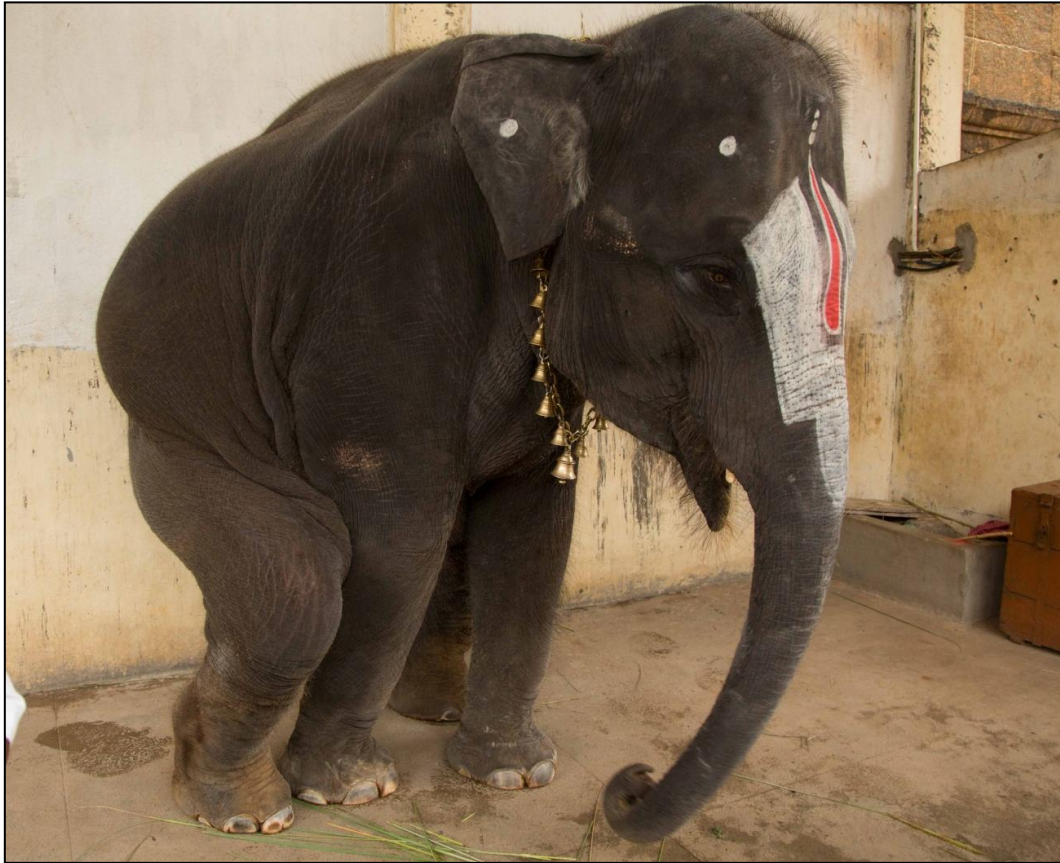
Sundaravalli (8 years old), was brought to the temple at the age of 4 years.

Housing - She is kept in a covered shed measuring 950 sq ft. The roof is concrete and fans have been fitted. She is bathed in this shed twice a day, using water from a pipe. Drinking water is piped into a bucket. We were told she was given water every half to one hour, but this was not done, during the two hours that we were there.



In isolation in a concrete shed. Elephants at this age need the company of other sub adult and senior female elephants. Isolation is the worst form of cruelty for a social animal.

Work - Twice a day, she is taken to the temple – from 6am to 12 noon and again from 4pm to 6pm. The space in the temple where she stands, is covered with sand, which is changed once a month. Her work comprises of standing in the temple and walking with the deity around the temple. She is not taken out for processions.



Sundaravalli has already developed bizarre behaviour like trying to climb and sit - it could be due to negative training to provide entertainment for devotees or behaviour called "vices" which is developed due to adverse captive conditions.

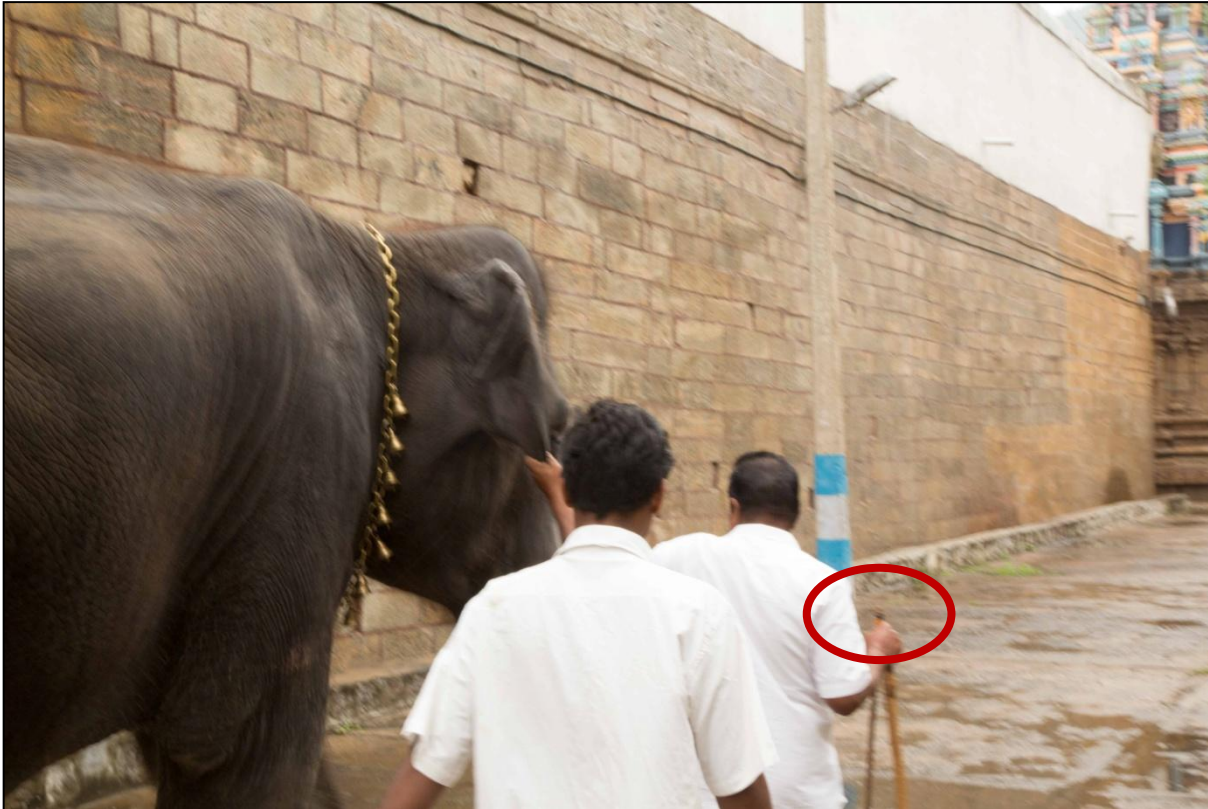


Behaviour - During the inspection she was very restless. She showed high stereotypic behaviour when tied by one front and one back leg. She was, very obviously, controlled using an ankush and a stick.



The elephant is trained by stick and metal ankush and is under command at all hours. This enables the elephant to have a robotic response and lose the concept of "free will" - a tragic condition that is symptomatic of captive elephants.

The phenomenon of stereotypic behaviour in captive animals is due to the absence of natural factors like climate, diet, the size and characteristics of their enclosure or the fact that they have to rely on humans for their every need can cause an animal to feel stressed in which it starts to perform a stereotypic behavior.



Common tool for control of this elephant is a sharp metal ankush, which was observed with the mahout at all times. Circled in red in the above photo. The use of metal ankush is prohibited.

Past Details of Elephant Keeping - Before this, the temple had kept another elephant “Andal”, for 19 years. She was sent to Salem Zoo at the age of 50 years, due to bad health. Before Andal, there was another elephant, whose details were not available.

Violations in Elephant Keeping Noticed in Respect to Sundaravalli

1. **Section 11, PCA Act 1960** –
2. **Sub section a** – beats, kicks, over-rides, over-drives, over-loads, tortures or otherwise treats any animal so as to subject it to unnecessary pain or suffering or causes, or being the owner permits, any animal to be so treated; or
3. **Sub section f** - Keeping an elephant continuously tethered. This states that it is cruelty to animals if any person “keeps for an unreasonable time any animal chained or tethered upon an unreasonably short or unreasonably heavy chain or cord”.
4. **Sub section f** - being the owner of (any animal) fails to provide such animal with sufficient food, drink or shelter
5. **Tamil Nadu Captive Elephants (Management and Maintenance) Rules, 2011**
6. **Rule 13; Subrule 1** - Beating, kicking, over-riding, over-driving, over-loading, torturing or treating any elephant so as to subject it to unnecessary pain or suffering, or being an owner permitting, any elephant to be so treated;
7. **Rule 13, Subrule 6** : Keeping for unreasonable time, an elephant chained or tethered upon by unreasonably short or unreasonably heavy chain or cord;
8. **Rule 11** – Maintenance of records
9. **Guidelines for Care and Management of Captive Elephants PE 2008** - “keeping for unreasonable time, an elephant chained or tethered upon an unreasonable short or unreasonably heavy chain or cord” is tantamount to cruelty to elephants and is prohibited.

10. **W L P A, 1972: Sec. 40 (2)** No person shall, after commencement of this Act, acquire, receive, keep in his control, custody, or possession, sell, offer for sale or otherwise transfer or transport any animal specified in Schedule I or Part II of Schedule II..... except with the previous permission in writing of the CWW or the authorised officer.

11. **Declaration of Wildlife Stock Rules, 2003 Sec. 4 (2)** - The ownership certificate in the name of the temple has been applied for. The original owner, Sri Prodip Doley, from Assam has submitted a letter mentioning that the baby elephant Zoon was 2 years and 5 months. Issuing of ownership certificate (by the PCCF, Assam) to Sri Prodip Doley on 12-03-2010, for a 2 and a half year old elephant is in violation.

The application under sub-rule (1) shall be presented in four complete sets within a period of 180 days from the date of publication of these Rules.

WLPA Sec 43 (1) - No person having in his possession captive animal, animal article, trophy or uncured trophy in respect of which he has a certificate of ownership, shall transfer by way of sale or offer for sale or by any other mode of consideration of commercial nature, such animal or article or trophy or uncured trophy

The original owner has submitted a gift deed mentioning that he has donated the elephant out of his natural love and desire for the donee, but the 'donee' Sri Sowmya Narayanan Empeppumannar Charitable Trust, has purchased the elephant for approximately 10 lakhs, and then donated her to the temple.

This is the third elephant owned by the temple. There seems to be a practice of keeping elephants while they are healthy, and then giving them away after they become sick and unhealthy. No details were available for the earlier 2 elephants.

The Tamil Nadu Forest Department should question the reason for temples acquiring elephants and then giving them up when they are unwell, only to acquire another young and healthy elephant.

Elephant Deivayanai

From Arulmigu Subramaniaswamy Thirukoil, Thirupparanga Kundram, Madurai District

Housing - Deivayanai (7 years old) was tethered by one front leg and one hind leg, in an orchard, under the shade of trees. She was very restless and agitated and kept trying to break from the chains. She is kept here from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. From 5:00 PM till the next morning, she is kept in a closed shed about 20 ft X 25 ft, which has a stone floor. In the closed shed, water is available from a tap, through a pipe. There is a trough which can be filled with water, but since she is tied while in the shed, it is not readily accessible.



This elephant is like a human child of the same age. 7 year old Deviyaane restless and contorting.



Work - Her work is carrying water for the deity (15 min). Walking is for about 2 hours in a day, and the rest of the time she is tied either in the shed or in the orchard, by one front and one back leg. Veterinarian visit was limited to once a month.

Behaviour – Extremely restless with obsessive stereotyping behaviour, caused by close confinement and lack of any enrichment to relieve boredom. Her only focus was to break away from the chains tied tightly to her back and fore limbs.

Past Details of Elephant Keeping - This is the second elephant owned by the temple. The earlier elephant “Avvai” died at the age of 56 years. She had been in the temple for 41 years. No details were available for the earlier elephant.



*Chained by front and hind limb.
Broken tailbone – possible injury or a result of manhandling*

Violations in Elephant Keeping Noticed in Respect to Deivayanai

1. Section 11, PCA Act 1960 –

- a. **Sub section a** – beats, kicks, over-rides, over-drives, over-loads, tortures or otherwise treats any animal so as to subject it to unnecessary pain or suffering or causes, or being the owner permits, any animal to be so treated; or
- b. **Sub section f** - Keeping an elephant continuously tethered. This states that it is cruelty to animals if any person “keeps for an unreasonable time any animal chained or tethered upon an unreasonably short or unreasonably heavy chain or cord”.
- c. **Sub section f** - being the owner of (any animal) fails to provide such animal with sufficient food, drink or shelter

2. Tamil Nadu Captive Elephants (Management and Maintenance) Rules, 2011 –

- a. **Rule 13; Subrule 1** - Beating, kicking, over-riding, over-driving, over-loading, torturing or treating any elephant so as to subject it to unnecessary pain or suffering, or being an owner permitting, any elephant to be so treated;
- b. **Rule 13, Subrrule 6** : Keeping for unreasonable time, an elephant chained or tethered upon by unreasonably short or unreasonably heavy chain or cord;
- c. **Rule 11** – Maintenance of records

3. Guidelines for Care and Management of Captive Elephants PE 2008 - “keeping for unreasonable time, an elephant chained or tethered upon an unreasonable short or unreasonably heavy chain or cord” is tantamount to cruelty to elephants and is prohibited. As outlined by Tamil Nadu’s Principal Chief Conservator of Forests in a Circular , “The elephant should not be tethered with chain and hobbles on 2 or 3 legs simultaneously which will cause arthritis problem to the elephant”.

4. Central Zoo Authority Zoo Rules - It also appears to violate a condition stipulated by the CZA that states, “The elephants should be kept tied only in one leg with chain/ rope covered by leather tubes, and the legs for tying may be changed alternately”. Tethering an elephant by more than one leg appears to violate the same condition.

5. WLPA 1972, Sec 40 (2) - The ownership papers are in the name of Sri Lila Bora, Golaghat Dist., Assam, for an elephant named Prerona. There is a letter dated 10-03-2014, from the PCCF, Chennai, to the H R & EC E, stating that the PCCF of Assam has given permission to send the 6 year old Prerona to Subramaniaswamy Thirukovil, Thirupparang Kundaram, Madurai for a period of three years.

6. Declaration of Wildlife Stock Rules, 2003 Section 4 (2) - No person shall, after commencement of this Act, acquire, receive, keep in his control, custody, or possession, sell, offer for sale or otherwise transfer or transport any animal specified in Schedule I or Part II of Schedule II... except with the previous permission in writing of the CWW or the authorised officer.

Issuing of ownership certificate (by the CF, Assam), for a 6 year old elephant appears to violate this section. The PCCF of Tamil Nadu may have questioned this, before issuing an N O C for the transportation of the elephant. The application under sub-rule (1) shall be presented in four complete sets within a period of 180 days from the date of publication of these Rules.

Further, the Ownership Certificate issued is itself faulty as it describes the animal as a **Domestic Animal ‘Elephant’**. For a Schedule I animal to be described thus, by an officer of the Forest Department shows complete lack of application of mind.

There seems to be a practice of keeping elephants while they are healthy. When they die or become unhealthy, a new young elephant is brought in. The Tamil Nadu Forest Department should question the antecedents of the elephants being continuously brought in to the many temples in the state, before issuing Ownership Certificates.

Elephant Maduravalli

From Arulmigu Koodalagar Temple, Madurai Town – 625001

Maduravalli (53 years old) has been in this temple for more than 40 years.

Housing - Maduravalli was kept in a shed with stone floor and RCC roof. She was tied by one back foot. She is only taken out for bathing and is then tethered again.



Tied for 24 hours in her concrete shed, elephant Maduravalli has a chronic abscess that could lead to her death by septicemia or blood poisoning. New sores are opening on her body, due to the poor living conditions.



Health & Work - She has very severe foot rot in both front feet. There are deep abscesses on both flanks. She is overweight. Though she has been under daily treatment, there does not seem to be much improvement. She has not been used for work for the last one and a half years, due to her bad health.



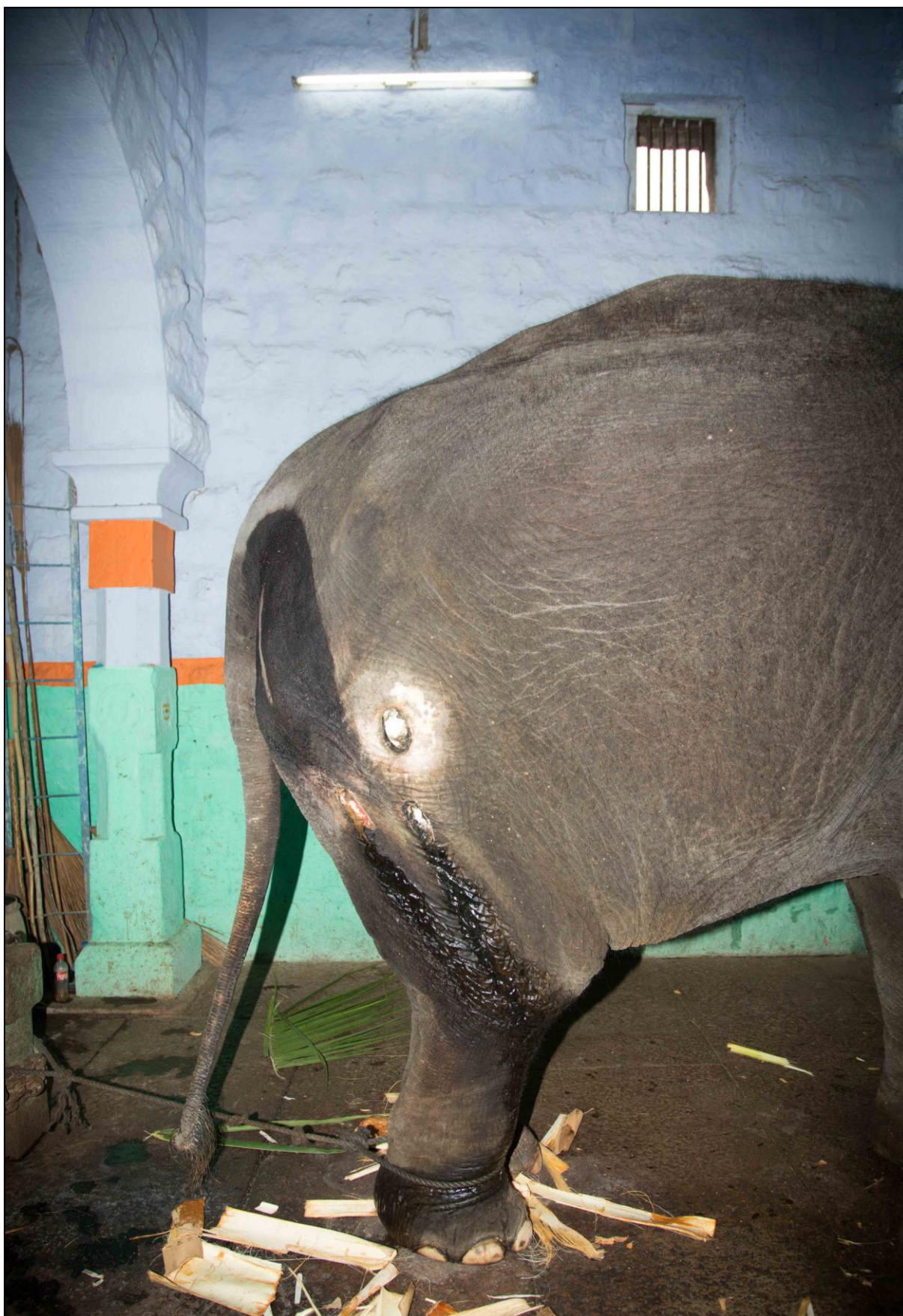
Injuries, wounds, footrot and abscesses is the hallmark of elephant Maduravalli. She is the worst example of the suffering of temple elephants - a combination of neglect and lack of interest in elephant specific knowledge coupled with ignorance of optimum conditions in captivity by the Temple Authorities.





Cracked toe nails and damaged foot pads due to defective and negative living conditions. Over decades, this has developed to a life threatening condition. This elephant may succumb very soon to her condition - a tragic statement of temple elephants in Tamil Nadu.





To make matters worse, no proper records of medical treatment or drugs administered is maintained by the temple authorities.

The ownership certificate is in the name of the temple dated 2006. She seems to have been acquired in 1977.

Past Details of Elephant Keeping - There are no records of two previous elephants that the temple owned. Both have died, but no documents were available.

Violations in Elephant Keeping Noticed in Respect to Maduravalli

1. Section 11, PCA Act 1960 –

- a. **Sub section a** – beats, kicks, over-rides, over-drives, over-loads, tortures or otherwise treats any animal so as to subject it to unnecessary pain or suffering or causes, or being the owner permits, any animal to be so treated; or
- b. **Sub section b** - (employs in any work or labour or for any purpose any animal which, by reason of its age or any disease) infirmity, wound, sore or other cause, is unfit to be so employed or, being the owner, permits any such unfit animal to be employed; or
- c. **Sub section f** - Keeping an elephant continuously tethered. This states that it is cruelty to animals if any person “keeps for an unreasonable time any animal chained or tethered upon an unreasonably short or unreasonably heavy chain or cord”.
- d. **Sub section f** - being the owner of (any animal) fails to provide such animal with sufficient food, drink or shelter.

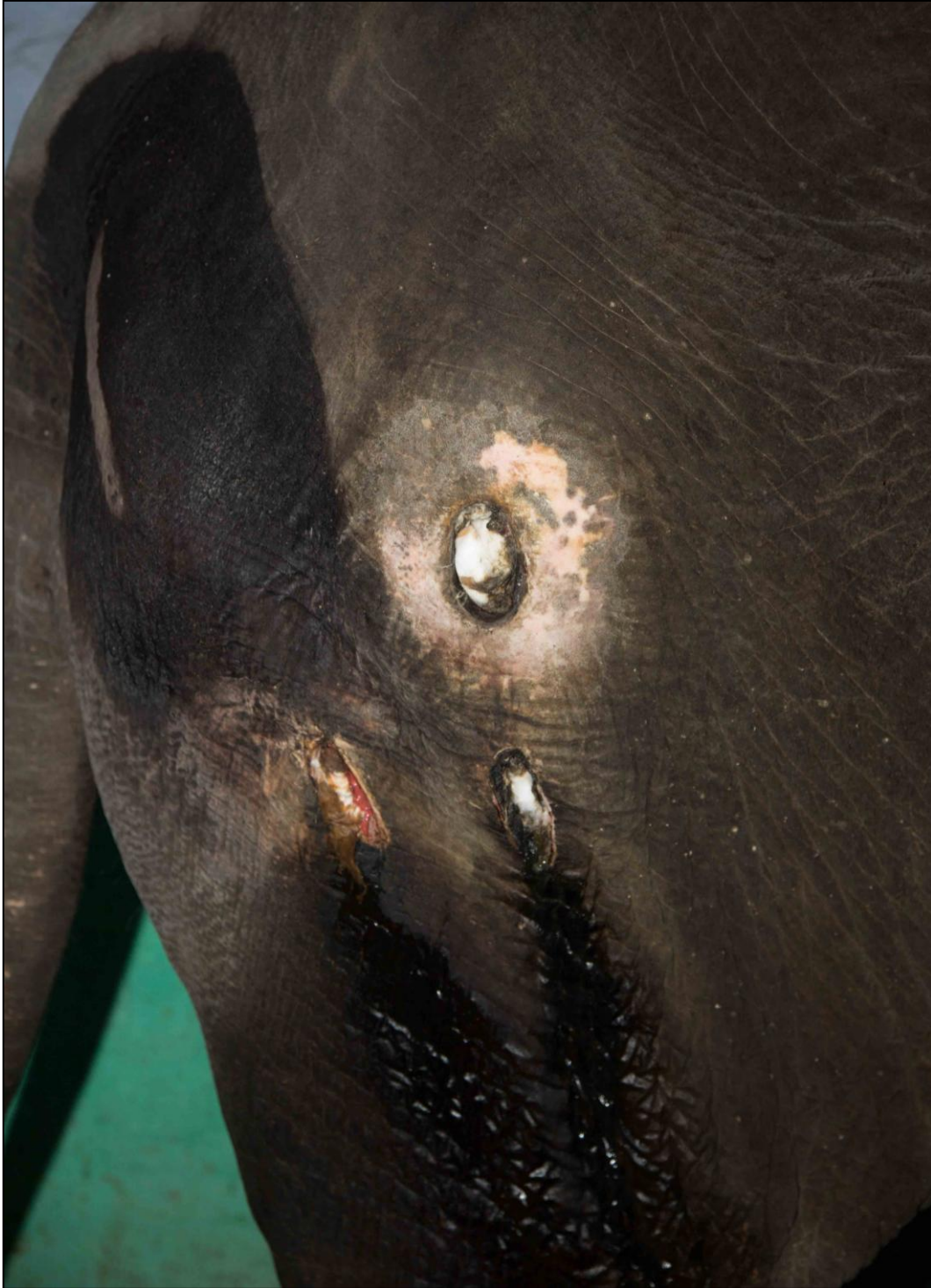
2. Tamil Nadu Captive Elephants (Management and Maintenance) Rules, 2011 –

- a. **Rule 13; Subrule 1** - Beating, kicking, over-riding, over-driving, over-loading, torturing or treating any elephant so as to subject it to unnecessary pain or suffering, or being an owner permitting, any elephant to be so treated
Rule 13, Subrule 2 - Employing in any work or labour or for any purpose, any elephant, which by reason of its age or disease, infirmity, wound, sore or other cause, if unfit to be so employed, or being owner permitting any such elephant to be employed
Rule 13, Subrule 6: Keeping for unreasonable time, an elephant chained or tethered upon by unreasonably short or unreasonably heavy chain or cord;
Rule 13, Subrule 11 - Not providing adequate veterinary care to a sick, injured or pregnant elephant;
Rule 13, Subrule 17 - Marching a sick, injured or pregnant elephant or a young calf over a very long distance or for a long duration at a stretch
- a. **Rule 11** – Maintenance of records

3. Guidelines for Care and Management of Captive Elephants PE 2008 - “keeping for unreasonable time, an elephant chained or tethered upon an unreasonable short or unreasonably heavy chain or cord” is tantamount to cruelty to elephants and is prohibited. As outlined by Tamil Nadu’s Principal Chief Conservator of Forests in a Circular , “The elephant should not be tethered with chain and hobbles on 2 or 3 legs simultaneously which will cause arthritis problem to the elephant”.

4. Central Zoo Authority Zoo Rules - It also appears to violate a condition stipulated by the CZA that states, “The elephants should be kept tied only in one leg with chain/ rope covered by leather tubes, and the legs for tying may be changed alternately”. Tethering an elephant by more than one leg appears to violate the same condition.

The temple authorities seem favourably inclined to giving up Maduravalli for treatment. If they do so, it should be impressed upon the Forest Department that no permission should be given for a new elephant to be taken in by the temple. This is the third elephant that the temple has taken in. It appears that every 25 – 30 years one elephant dies prematurely and another one is brought in.



Elephant Maduravalli suffers from multiple infected and painful abscesses and open wounds all over her body

Elephant Parvathi

From Arulmigu Meenakshi Sundareshwar Temple, Madurai – 625001

Parvathi (19 years old) was tethered by both front legs and one hind leg, in an orchard, under the shade of trees. Tying by three legs completely restricted her movement.

Housing - She is kept here from 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM. From 9:00 PM till 9:00 AM, the next morning, she is kept in a closed shed about 20 ft X 25 ft, which has a stone floor. Next to the closed shed, a shower facility has been made for her bath, twice a day. She is given water 4 times a day in a bucket.



Work - She walks for about 2 hours in a day, to bring water for the deity and the rest of the time she is tied either in the shed or in the orchard, by one front and one back leg. She is taken out for 18 festivals in a year, and is sent to other temples, like Mariamma Temple, also.

Past Details of Elephant Keeping - This is the third elephant owned by the temple. The earlier 2 elephants have died, and the ownership certificate for one of them (Anknyarkanni) was available.



Chained by three legs for 12 hours a day on sand floor and in a concrete shed for the other 12 hours



Tied by fore and hind limb, this 19 year old elephant will display signs of ill health and life threatening conditions in approximately 5-10 years. Her skin is dry and flaky - sign that she does not have access to river or lake for bathing, where the water can submerge her body. She is bathed with a pipe and for 12 hours is chained on concrete floor.

Violations in Elephant Keeping Noticed in Respect to Parvathi

1. Section 11, PCA Act 1960 –

- a. **Sub section a** – beats, kicks, over-rides, over-drives, over-loads, tortures or otherwise treats any animal so as to subject it to unnecessary pain or suffering or causes, or being the owner permits, any animal to be so treated; or
- b. **Sub section f** - Keeping an elephant continuously tethered. This states that it is cruelty to animals if any person “keeps for an unreasonable time any animal

chained or tethered upon an unreasonably short or unreasonably heavy chain or cord”.

- c. **Sub section f** - being the owner of (any animal) fails to provide such animal with sufficient food, drink or shelter
2. **Tamil Nadu Captive Elephants (Management & Maintenance) Rules, 2011** – Rule 13
 - a. **Rule 13, Subrule 1** - Beating, kicking, over-riding, over-driving, over-loading, torturing or treating any elephant so as to subject it to unnecessary pain or suffering, or being an owner permitting, any elephant to be so treated;
 - b. **Rule 13, Subrule 6** : Keeping for unreasonable time, an elephant chained or tethered upon by unreasonably short or unreasonably heavy chain or cord;
 - c. **Rule 11** – Maintenance of records
3. **Guidelines for Care and Management of Captive Elephants PE 2008** - “keeping for unreasonable time, an elephant chained or tethered upon an unreasonable short or unreasonably heavy chain or cord” is tantamount to cruelty to elephants and is prohibited. As outlined by Tamil Nadu’s Principal Chief Conservator of Forests in a Circular, “The elephant should not be tethered with chain and hobbles on 2 or 3 legs simultaneously which will cause arthritis problem to the elephant”.
4. **Central Zoo Authority Zoo Rules** - It also appears to violate a condition stipulated by the CZA that states, “The elephants should be kept tied only in one leg with chain/ rope covered by leather tubes, and the legs for tying may be changed alternately”. Tethering an elephant by more than one leg appears to violate the same condition.
5. **Declaration of Wildlife Stock Rules, 2003 Sec. 4 (2)** - There is no ownership certificate for this elephant. In a transport permit dated 3rd Dec 2014, it has been mentioned that the certificate of ownership is in the name of Arulmigu Meenakshi Sundareswarar Thirukoil, but no certificate was found at the time of the inspection. The application under sub-rule (1) shall be presented in four complete sets within a period of 180 days from the date of publication of these Rules.
6. **WLPA Sec. 40 (2)** - No person shall, after commencement of this Act, acquire, receive, keep in his control, custody, or possession, sell, offer for sale or otherwise transfer or transport any animal specified in Schedule I or Part II of Schedule II.....except with the previous permission in writing of the CWW or the authorised officer.
7. There is a clear Sale Deed for Parvathi, where the owner, Mr. Ganesh of Palakkad has clearly mentioned that he has sold the elephant to the temple for Rs.3,60,000/- and received the money in cash, on 7th June 2000. There is also a Transport permit issued by the Forest Department of Arunachal Pradesh, on 10th May 2000 permitting Mr. Ganesh to transport 2 elephants - Raja Babu and Parvathi – from Arunachal to Palakkad. This certificate also clearly mentions that the estimated value of the elephant aged 2 years, 2 months as on 12-04-2000 was Rs. 60,000/-. Within one month (on 7th June 2000), Mr. Ganesh has received a sum of Rs. 3,60,000/- in cash for the same animal.

The documents pertaining to Parvathi clearly show that the elephant has been illegally obtained in the year 2000, at which time she was 2 years and 2 months. The Chief Wildlife Warden of Arunachal Pradesh has violated, first, by registering the elephant

without questioning where Mr. Ganesh obtained the animal from, and then, by permitting the animal to be transferred to Palakkad.

There seems to be a practice of keeping elephants while they are healthy. When they die or become unhealthy, a new young elephant is brought in. The T N Forest Department should question the antecedents of the elephants being continuously brought in to the many temples in the state, before issuing Ownership Certificates.

Conclusion

We would like to state, that as the evidence reveals, the elephants in captivity in temples in Tamil Nadu are not in a good physical or psychological condition. Elephants inspected were females, who are not good candidates for living in isolation for the greater part of their lives. It is advised, that on an urgent basis, elephants in the worst conditions be removed to care facilities whether in or out of State and the remaining elephants be subject to strict monitoring by the AWBI. From time to time, the District Elephant Welfare Committees should meet and decide on the improvements in the lives of the captive elephants in the temples and in private custody.

Finally, it is recommended to phase out the use of elephants in religious institutions, within a specified time frame. As an immediate measure, authorities should bar the entry of new elephants or additions to the exiting captive elephant pool in Tamil Nadu. This step would make it possible to monitor and improve the conditions of the existing elephants in temples for sending the worst abused cases to rehabilitations centers and care facilities.

Annexure 1: Official Questionnaire for Evaluation of Captive Temple Elephants - Sudaravalli, Deivayanai, Maduravalli, Parvathi

Elephant Sundaravalli



Questionnaire for Evaluation of Temple Elephants in Tamil Nadu

Animal Welfare Board of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests and Climate Change
13/1, 3rd Seaward Rd, Valmiki Nagar, Thiruvanniyur, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600041

PART-I

(To be filled by the evaluator)

1	Full name of the Temple	ARUL MIGU KALLAZHAGAR THIRUKOIL, ALAGHAR KOIL, MADURAI DIST. TN.
2	Permanent address (Street/Town/District/Pin Code)	ALAGHAR ROAD MADURAI TOWN 625301 DIST. MELUR TALUK
3	Name of AWBI Nominee & date of evaluation	SUPARNA GANGULY DR. JAIKRISHNAN DR. SHIELA RAO (MADURAI REP) SUBRAMANIAM SANTAKUMAR
4	Names of Officers/ Mahouts present during the evaluation	1) MR. G. SELVAM - SUPDT. - 0452-2470375 OFF of the D.C. / E.O. 2) P. BALACHANDRAN - JNR. ASST. - 94863-01393 3) M. SENTHIL KUMAR - JNR. ASST. - 99422-9778
5	Name of Temple Executive Officer/ Administrator/ Officer-in-charge	MR. K. CHELLADURAI M.A.B.L. DY. COMM. / E.O. (Addn. Chrg.)
6	Contact address of the above with phone numbers	0452-2470375 (D.C. per) 2470228 (D.C. off) 95780-70234 (cell)
7	Total no. of elephants owned by temple as on date of evaluation	1 as on 14.11.2015
8	Name/s of elephant/s with sex and age (Name-Sex-Age)	SUNDARAVALLI THAYAR FEMALE (hole in the left ear) 8 YRS. (as on 4.6.2015)

Please use separate survey sheets for each elephant

Shiela Rao
14/11/15

Suparna Ganguly
14/11/15

14/11/15

Elephant Sundaravalli

PART-II Tamil Nadu Temple Elephant Survey Data Sheet

1	Name of the Elephant	SUNDARAVALLITHAYAR
2	Purpose of keeping	Temple Festival Purpose
3	Sex	F.
4	Age (in Yrs)	8 yrs.
5	If male, whether Makhna/Tusker	N A
6	Tusk Type – Shape/ full or broken	N A
7	Source – Capture/ Captive born/ Other – please specify	Captive Born – DOB – 14.09.2006 Name of mother: Champa (Microchip No. 961001 000003559) Dist. Golaghat, Assam
8	Year of Capture/ Birth/ Other – please specify	D.O.B. – 14.09.2006 (Original Name as per Birth Certificate "Joan")
9	Age/height at Birth/ Capture/ Other – please specify	41 inches – ht.
10	Location of birth/ capture/ rescue/ other – please specify	Bohikhowa (Palashguri) P.O. Dhansirimukh P.S. Bokaghat C.P. Kaziranga / Haridhasin Dist. Golaghat, Assam.
11	Reason for capture/ rescue/ Other – please specify	bought for temple purpose.
12	Type of shelter - open/ closed/ partially opened – materials used	Two holding areas 1) Closed shed for housing after temple duties 2) sandy patch inside temple. Covered area.
13	Number of hours chained/day	23 hours.

Transported on 28.03.2011 from Assam to T.N. VIA
W. Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand, Orisa, Andhra Pradesh.

Ashwath Rao
14/11/15

SB Ganguly
14/11/15

14/11/15

Elephant Sundaravalli

14	Area of Shelter	Closed shed approx. 950sq. ft.
15	Type of flooring - earthen/concrete	Concrete for above Sandy inside temple premises.
16	Type of shade provided	RCC roof w/ fan.
17	Source of water & accessibility - no. of times given water during day - how many trunkfuls taken each time	Tap water in bucket. Given Every hour - reportedly. No bucket visible.
18	Bathing - number of times per day with details of location and duration	Twice a day / morning & evening / With hose pipe.
19	Interaction with other elephants - Yes/No	No.
20	Interaction - specify hours per day	No.
21	Number of individuals in facility	None
22	Personality - calm/aggressive	Calm but very restless. Tied by front & back leg.
23	Number of people killed/ injured with details	N.A.
24	Stereotypic behaviour - Yes/No	YES. HIGH STEREOTYPIC
25	Type of work	TEMPLE DUTIES
26	Hours of work per day	8 HRS / DAY. 6am to 12 noon 4pm to 6 pm

Ashwini Rao
14/11/15

SB Ganguly
14/11/15

AS
14/11/15

Elephant Sundaravalli

27	Source of food	Locally delivered to temple.
28	Types of food (provide list)	Grass - 200 kgs from riverside. Coconut & banyan leaves.
29	Quantity of fodder & rations per day	Pepper & jeera (supp.) given at 11 am & 5 pm - Rations. Rice - 4 kgs Ragi - 2 kgs Horsegram - 1 kg Green gram - 1 kg Dates - 100 gms Jaggery 100 gms Salt - 100 gms MM - 70 gms.
30	Number of calves given birth to	N.A.
31	Musth - reported or not	N.A.
32	Time of musth (month)	N.A.
33	Number of calves sired	N.A.
34	Disease/disorders reported	None
35	Veterinary doctor availability - Yes/No If no, reason	YES. VISITS TWICE MTHLY. DR. MUTHURAMALINGAM (MVSc) DR. S. SHANKAR (MVSc)
36	Amount spent on the animal per year	Rs. 8,64,000/-
37	Number of mahouts changed in last 5 years with details/reason for change	23 yw. in temple. Elephant has gone to Camp for 4 consecutive years & is reportedly very happy in natural surroundings.

Anil Kumar
14/11/15

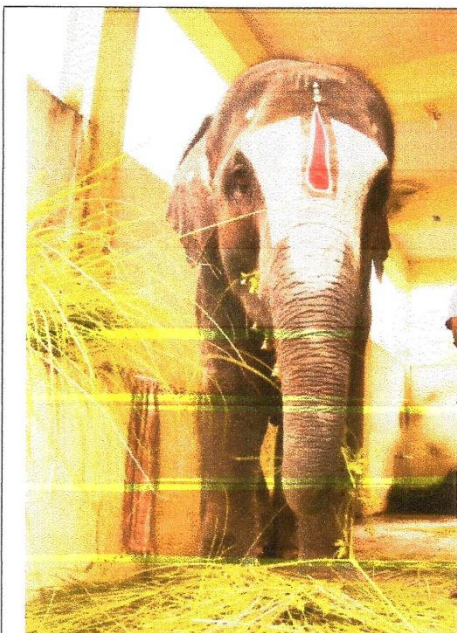
SB Garguly
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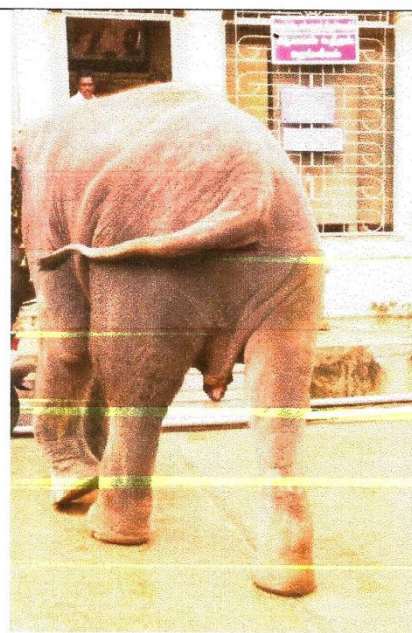
Elephant Sundaravalli

Photographs of Elephant

Name of Elephant: Sundaravalli



FRONT

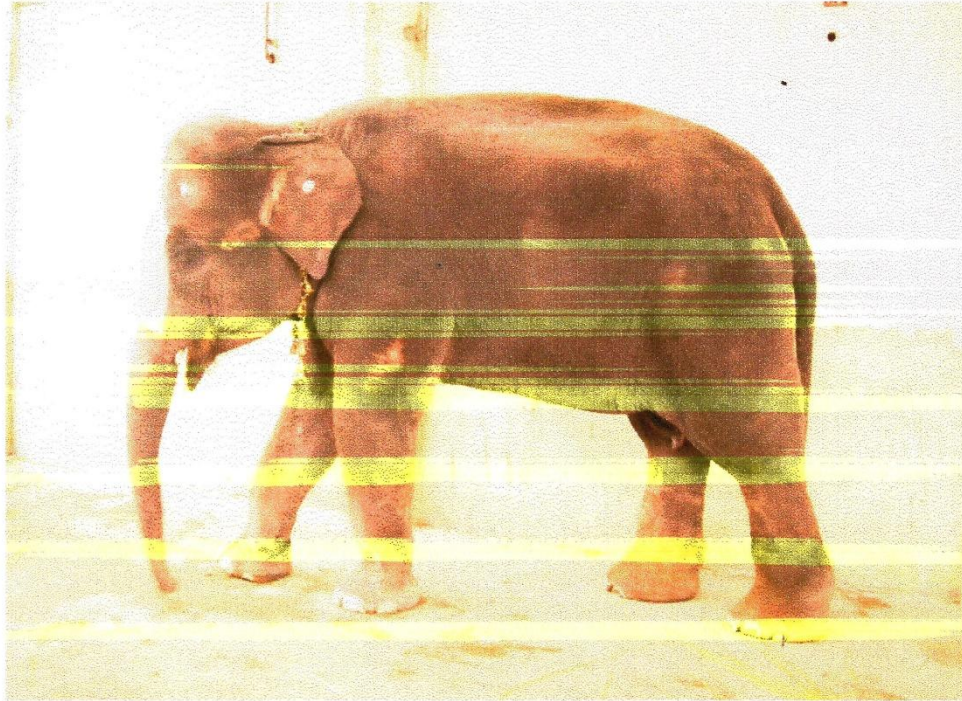


REAR



Lateral Right

Elephant Sundaravalli



Lateral Left

Elephant Sundaravalli

Part III

Details of Elephant Mahout and Cawadi (helper)				
1	Mahout Name	CHANDRASEKHAR	Cawadi Name	SURESH
2	Age	42 YRS	Age	30 YRS.
3	Total experience as a mahout	23 YRS IN TEMPLE.	Total experience as a mahout	19 YRS IN KERALA
4	Total experience with this elephant	4.5 yrs.	Total experience with this elephant	4 YRS.
5	Community	MAHOUT COMMUNITY	Community	MAHOUT
6	Source of training	FOREST DEPT.	Source of training	ON SITE W AT REJUVENATION CAMP
7	Family occupation	MAHOUTRY	Family occupation	FATHER : DRIVER BROTHER - MAHOUT
8	Education	ILLITERATE	Education	5TH STD.
9	Salary per year	19,500 PM 2,34,000 P.A.	Salary per year	6000 PM 72,000/- PA.
10	Job status - Permanent/ Temporary/ Daily wage	PERMANENT	Job status - Permanent/ Temporary/ Daily wage	PERMANENT
11	Marital status	MARRIED	Marital status	YES
12	Number of Children	1 SON	Number of Children	2
13	Usage of tools	YES	Usage of tools	YES
14	Type of tools	WOODEN STICK & ANKUSH	Type of tools	SAME AS MAHOUT
15	Health status of Mahout	HEALTHY	Health status of Cawadi	HEALTHY
16	Insurance & Type	LIC	Insurance & Type	LIC
17	Provided by employer or not	YES	Provided by employer or not	YES
18	Will his children join this profession?	YES	Will his children join this profession?	NO.

Shridhar Rao
14/11/15

SP Ganguly
14/11/15


14/11/15

Elephant Sundaravalli

Part IV

Details of elephant owner	
Current Ownership Certificate – Date of issue, number & name of owner /s Microchip No. & Date	APPLIED FOR OC FROM TN FOREST DEPT. ON. 17.05.2013. 0006B7243A dt. 22.03.11
Year of acquisition of first elephant	BEFORE ANDAL – ELEPHANT DETAILS UNKNOWN. ANDAL – HANDED OVER TO FD. ACQ IN 1991. WAS SUNDARAVALLI – 3RD ACQUISITION in temple 19yo.
Number of elephants acquired since first acquisition	Three so far.
Number of deaths of previous elephants with post mortem reports	ANDAL ELEPHANT GIVEN TO F.D. DECISION TAKEN BY DY. COMM/EO OF TEMPLE. AT 45 YRS. to 50
Source of acquisition of elephants (which State)	Andal was acquired from Kerala. → Sundaravalli " " " Assam. Currently housed in Salem Zoo.
Amount spent to purchase elephant 94433-41163 (Mr. Madhavan Swamy)	DONOR SRI SOUMYA NARAYANAN EMPEPUMANNAR CHARITABLE TRUST WEST CAR STR, THIRUKOSTHUR, SIVAGANGA DS. T.N. PURCHASED APPROX. FOR 10 L.
Source of spending for purchase & upkeep of elephant (with details)	Per month – 72,000/- from Temple Collections – hundi / ticketing / donors.

Date: 14.11.2015

Signature

Suvarna Baski Garguly

Shivadas Rao

(SUBRAHMANYAN SANTAKUMAR)

Elephant Deivayanai



Questionnaire for Evaluation of Temple Elephants in Tamil Nadu

Animal Welfare Board of India, Ministry of Environment and
Forests and Climate Change
13/1, 3rd Seaward Rd, Valmiki Nagar, Thiruvannamipur, Chennai,
Tamil Nadu 600041

PART-I

(To be filled by the evaluator)

1	Full name of the Temple	Arulmishu Subramaniasamy A/M SUBRAMANIASWAMY THIRUKOIL
2	Permanent address (Street/ Town/District/Pin Code)	THIRUPPARANG KUNDRAM MADURAI DIST.
3	Name of AWBI Nominee & date of evaluation	SUPARNA GANGULY DR. JAYAKRISHNA DR. SHIELA RAO (MADURAI) SUBRAMANIAM S.
4	Names of Officers/ Mahouts present during the evaluation	MR. A. CHELLA DURAI DEPUTY COMM. CUM E.O.
5	Name of Temple Executive Officer/ Administrator/ Officer-in-charge	SAME
6	Contact address of the above with phone numbers	D.C. - 9578070234 (cell) 0452-2482248 (land) <thiruparankundrammugan@tnhrce.org
7	Total no. of elephants owned by temple as on date of evaluation	1 elephant as on 14.11.2015
8	Name/s of elephant/s with sex and age (Name-Sex-Age)	Deivayanai / female/ 7 years. (hole in the right ear)

Please use separate survey sheets for each elephant

Shielan Rao
14/11/15

Suparna Bala Ganguly
14/11/15

14/11/15

Elephant Deivayanai

PART-II Tamil Nadu Temple Elephant Survey Data Sheet

1	Name of the Elephant	Deivayanai / female	Original Name Prerona ⁿ
2	Purpose of keeping	Use of elephant for festival	- all 12 mths
3	Sex	Female	
4	Age (in Yrs)	7 years	3/05/2008 (DOB)
5	If male, whether Makhna/Tusker	NA	
6	Tusk Type - Shape/ full or broken	NA	
7	Source - Capture/ Captive born/ Other - please specify	unspecified origin. Name of orig. owner - Sri LiLa Bora, Gondhakorai Village, Sarupathar PO, Golaghat Dist. Assam (Given on lease for 3 yrs. on 20/11/14)	
8	Year of Capture/ Birth/ Other - please specify	YEAR OF BIRTH - 3.05.2008 YEAR OF DONATION - 2014	
9	Age/height at Birth/ Capture/ Other - please specify	AGE OF DONA - 6 YRS. Height at Birth - 182 cms.	
10	Location of birth/ capture/ rescue/ other - please specify	Sarupathar PO Golaghat Dist. Assam	Orig. Name - Prerona.
11	Reason for capture/ rescue/ Other - please specify	DONATION TO TEMPLE BY (94431-46364) K. PANDIYARAJAN, DIST. DY. LEADER, ANNA LABOR ORG., MADURAI RURAL DIST. MADURAI	
12	Type of shelter - open/ closed/ partially opened - materials used	1) CLOSED SHED IN TEMPLE - RCC ROOF 2) WOODED ORCHARD (PART OF 7 ACRES OF THIRUICE)	
13	Number of hours chained/day	24 HOURS	

Shivakumar
24/11/15

Sripurna Baki Garguly

AS
24/11/15

Elephant Deivayanai

14	Area of Shelter	CLOSED SHED - 20 X 25 ft. WITH SANDY AREA FOR STANDING. SHED HAS
15	Type of flooring - earthen/concrete	TEMPLE SHED HAS STONE FLOOR.
16	Type of shade provided	ORCHARD HAS TREE SHADE.
17	Source of water & accessibility - no. of times given water during day - how many trunkfuls taken each time	TAP / TROUGH PRESENT. NOT ACCESSIBLE AT WILL. R.O. PLANT FOR WATER. —
18	Bathing - number of times per day with details of location and duration	ONCE A DAY WITH PIPE IN SHED.
19	Interaction with other elephants - Yes/No	NO
20	Interaction - specify hours per day	NO
21	Number of individuals in facility	ONLY ONE ELEPHANT
22	Personality - calm/aggressive	VERY RESTLESS & AGITATED.
23	Number of people killed/injured with details	—
24	Stereotypic behaviour - Yes/No	SEVERE STEREOTYPING
25	Type of work	TEMPLE DUTIES - 7 am to 9 am. DURING TEMPLE FESTIVAL 17 DAYS IN A YEAR.
26	Hours of work per day	2 HRS.

Abhishek
14/11/15

Sipana Baki Garguly

Ans
14/11/15

Elephant Deivayanai

27	Source of food	THROUGH CONTRACTOR
28	Types of food (provide list)	Green Grass / Coconut Leaves / Palmyra leaves / Cooked rations - 17 balls per morn. & evening.
29	Quantity of fodder & rations per day	200 KGS PER DAY (rice, jaggery, coconut + carrots).
30	Number of calves given birth to	NA
31	Musth - reported or not	NA
32	Time of musth (month)	NA
33	Number of calves sired	NA
34	Disease/disorders reported	NONE
35	Veterinary doctor availability - Yes/No If no, reason	ONCE A MTH.
36	Amount spent on the animal per year	Rs. 8,64,000/- P.A.
37	Number of mahouts changed in last 5 years with details/reason for change	NO CHANGES.

Shivabharathi
14/11/15

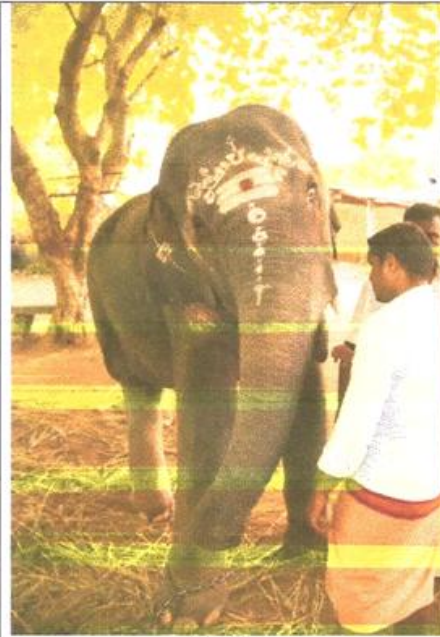
Suparna Baki Garguly
14/11/15


14/11/15

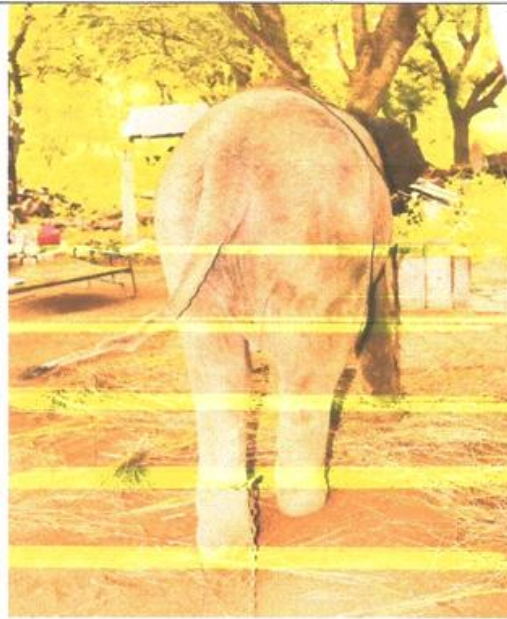
Elephant Deivayanai

Photographs of Elephants

Name: Devayaanai



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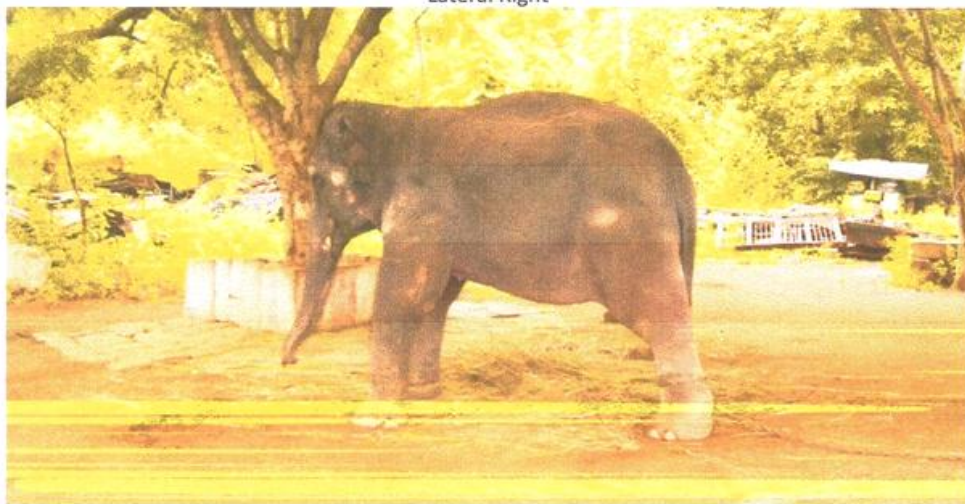


REAR

Elephant Deivayanai



Lateral Right



Lateral Left

Elephant Deivayanai

Part III

Details of Elephant Mahout and Cawadi (helper)			
1	Mahout Name	M. GANAPATHY MURUGAN	Cawadi Name C. KANAGASUNDARAM
2	Age	55 YRS.	Age 46 YRS
3	Total experience as a mahout	30 YRS.	Total experience as a mahout 20 YRS.
4	Total experience with this elephant	1 YR. W/ Devyan 29 YRS W/ AWAI	Total experience with this elephant 1 YR. / 20 YRS W/ previous
5	Community	MAHOUT	Community MAHOUTRY
6	Source of training	Trained by brother. FD.	Source of training SENIOR MAHOUT
7	Family occupation	MAHOUTRY	Family occupation MAHOUT
8	Education	ILLITERATE	Education 6TH STD.
9	Salary per year	25,000 - PM 3,000 - PA.	Salary per year 6,000 PM 73,000 PA
10	Job status - Permanent/ Temporary/ Daily wage	PERMANENT	Job status - Permanent/ Temporary/ Daily wage PERMANENT
11	Marital status	MARRIED	Marital status MARRIED
12	Number of Children	2	Number of Children 2
13	Usage of tools	WOODEN STICK	Usage of tools YES
14	Type of tools	YES	Type of tools WOODEN STICK
15	Health status of Mahout	HEALTHY	Health status of Cawadi HEALTHY
16	Insurance & Type	LIC	Insurance & Type LIC
17	Provided by employer or not	YES	Provided by employer or not YES
18	Will his children join this profession?	NO	Will his children join this profession? MAY JOIN

PH. NO. GANAPATHY - 97888-64498
MURUGAN

Shivakumar
14/11/15

Suparna Baki Garguly
14/11/15

Aut
14/11/15

Elephant Deivayanai

Part IV

Details of elephant owner	
Current Ownership Certificate – Date of issue, number & name of owner /s Microchip No. & Date	NOT AVAILABLE. – TN ASSAM – No. 0006CDBAD/5/EAC/SOLA/NJ/13/38 M.No. – 0006CDBADS dt. 17/11/2014 dt. 29/11/2013
Year of acquisition of first elephant	1983 – Avvai (fe.) – from Jopslip Ele. Camp 2012 – Death at 56 yrs.
Number of elephants acquired since first acquisition	Only one.
Number of deaths of previous elephants with post mortem reports	P.M. Report Enclo.
Source of acquisition of elephants (which State)	T.N. Forest Elephant Camp. – Avvai Assam – Devyanai
Amount spent to purchase elephant	TEMPLE GIVEN ELEPHANT BY DONOR. DONOR BOUGHT FOR APPROX. 10L.
Source of spending for purchase & upkeep of elephant (with details)	TEMPLE FUNDS from hundi, ^{and} x temple hundi. Mthly exp. approx. Rs. 60,000/-

Date: 14.11.2015

Signature

Suparna Baki Garguly

Shweta Nekar

[Signature]

(SUBRAMANIAN SANTAKUMAR)

Elephant Maduravalli



Questionnaire for Evaluation of Temple Elephants in Tamil Nadu

Animal Welfare Board of India, Ministry of Environment and
Forests and Climate Change
13/1, 3rd Seaward Rd, Valmiki Nagar, Thiruvannamipur, Chennai,
Tamil Nadu 600041

PART-I

(To be filled by the evaluator)

1	Full name of the Temple	A/M KODALAGAR TEMPLE MADURAI TOWN - 625001
2	Permanent address (Street/ Town/District/Pin Code)	Same as above
3	Name of AWBI Nominee & date of evaluation	SUPARNA GANGULY DR. JAYAKRISHNA DR. SHIELA RAO (MADURAI) SUBRAMANIAM
4	Names of Officers/ Mahouts present during the evaluation	~~EE~~ Mr. KANNAN - MGR-IN-CHARGE
5	Name of Temple Executive Officer/ Administrator/ Officer-in-charge	T. ANITHA, B.A, BL ASST. COMM/E.O.
6	Contact address of the above with phone numbers	94877-19898 (cell) 0452-2338542 (off. land)
7	Total no. of elephants owned by temple as on date of evaluation	1 as of 14.11.15
8	Name/s of elephant/s with sex and age (Name-Sex-Age)	MADURAVALLI (no such hole visible. But ear has damaged flap) FEMALE / 53 YRS.

Please use separate survey sheets for each elephant

S. Ganguly
14/11/15

Shielara Rao
14/11/15

AA
14/11/15

Elephant Maduravalli

PART-II Tamil Nadu Temple Elephant Survey Data Sheet

1	Name of the Elephant	MADURAVALLI
2	Purpose of keeping	TEMPLE DUTIES
3	Sex	FEMALE
4	Age (in Yrs)	53 YEARS (APPROX.)
5	If male, whether Makhna/Tusker	NA
6	Tusk Type – Shape/ full or broken.	NA
7	Source – Capture/ Captive born/ Other – please specify	UNKNOWN. OC previous cancelled in 1977. OC New issued in 2006.
8	Year of Capture/ Birth/ Other – please specify	UNKNOWN
9	Age/height at Birth/ Capture/ Other – please specify	UNKNOWN
10	Location of birth/ capture/ rescue/ other – please specify	ACQUIRED FROM MUNDANTHURAI W.S. in 1977. SOURCE OF BIRTH UNKNOWN.
11	Reason for capture/ rescue/ Other – please specify	UNKNOWN
12	Type of shelter - open/ closed/ partially opened – materials used	CLOSED SHELTER RCC SHED
13	Number of hours chained/day	CLOSED SHED – 12 HRS. – 6 PM TO 6 AM SAND AREA – 12 HRS – 6 AM TO 6 PM.

Sp. G. G. G. G. G.
14/11/15

Shri. S. S. S. S. S.
14/11/15

14/11/15

Elephant Maduravalli

14	Area of Shelter	APPROX 21 ft X 21 ft.
15	Type of flooring - earthen/concrete	STONE FLOOR, RCC ROOF, FAN SANDY AREA FOR STANDING AT A DISTANCE.
16	Type of shade provided	RCC ROOF
17	Source of water & accessibility - no. of times given water during day - how many trunkfuls taken each time	TAP WATER. DRUM FOR WATER KEPT BUT NOT ACCESSIBLE. ONCE A DAY IN SHED & WHILE BATHING.
18	Bathing - number of times per day with details of location and duration.	ONCE A DAY
19	Interaction with other elephants - Yes/No	NO.
20	Interaction - specify hours per day	NO.
21	Number of individuals in facility	NONE. SINGLE.
22	Personality - calm/aggressive	CALM
23	Number of people killed/injured with details	NONE.
24	Stereotypic behaviour - Yes/No	YES. MODERATE
25	Type of work	NOT SINCE 1.5 YRS.
26	Hours of work per day	N.A.

SB Ganguly
14/11/15

Shivcharan Rao
14/11/15

14/11/15

Elephant Maduravalli

27	Source of food	LOCAL PROCUREMENT
28	Types of food (provide list)	COCONUT LEAVES - 200 KGS DRIED GRSS, COCONUT FIBRE, COOKED RATIONS -
29	Quantity of fodder & rations per day	→ AVAL - 4 kgs Green gram - 2 kg. Chyavan Prash - x
30	Number of calves given birth to	NA
31	Musth - reported or not	NA
32	Time of musth (month)	NA
33	Number of calves sired	NA
34	Disease/disorders reported	SEVERE FOOT ROT. SUPPOSEDLY FROM FMD. UNDER CONSTANT TREATMENT. (*)
35	Veterinary doctor availability - Yes/No If no, reason	YES. 1) DR. GIRITA 2) DR. MUTHURANALINGYAM - 97895-47408 3) DR. JOHN PRABHAKAR 4) DR. KALAIVANAN - 94434-61712 5) DR. SARUPRIYA - 94434-61712
36	Amount spent on the animal per year	APPROX. 7.20 lakhs per year.
37	Number of mahouts changed in last 5 years with details/reason for change	NO CHANGES. MAHOUT 30 YRS. OF SERVICE

- (*) Abscess on flank (right)
Abscess near eye (right)
Foot deformity
Growth above nail.

S.B. Garguly
14/11/15

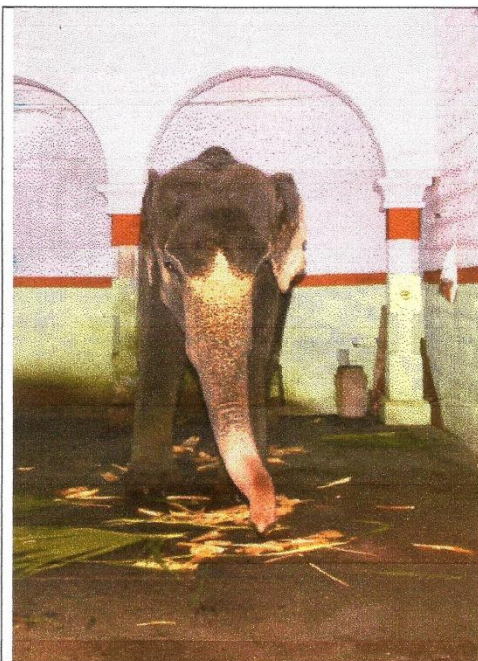
Shivakumar Rao
14/11/15

AS
14/11/15

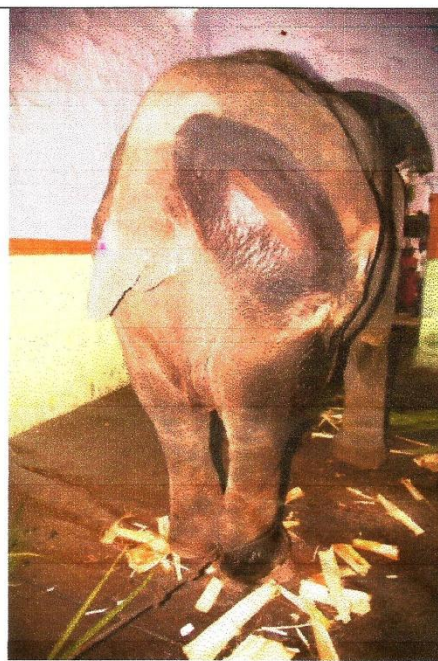
Elephant Maduravalli

Photographs of Elephant

Name of Elephant: Maduraivalli

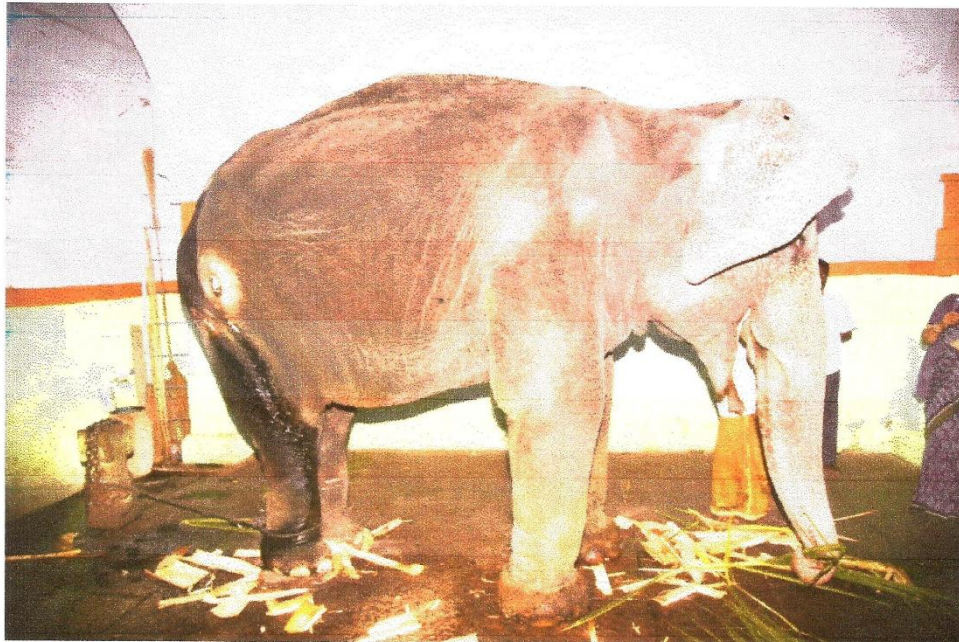


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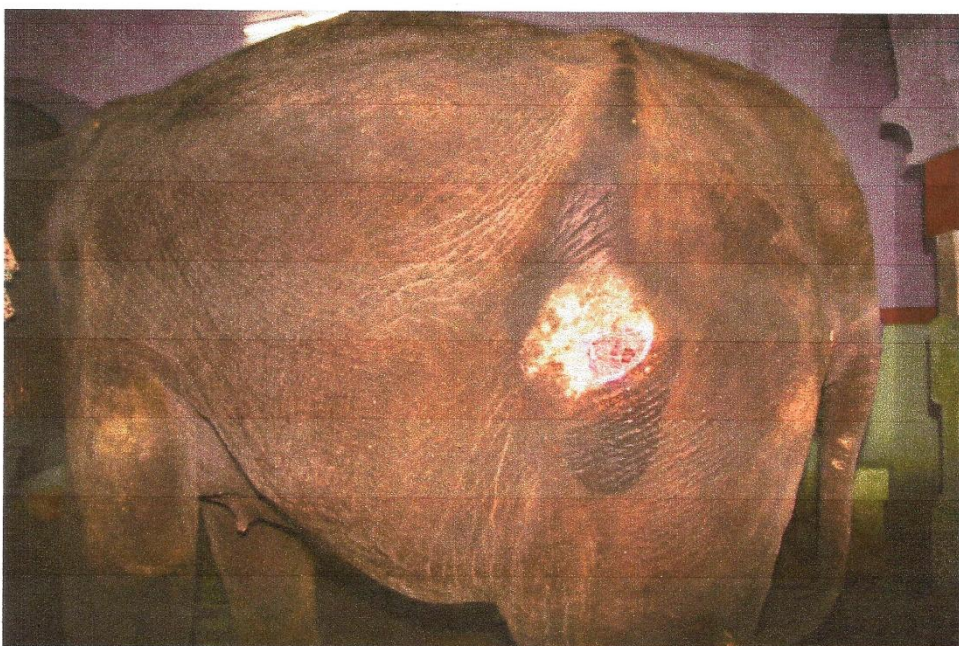


REAR

Elephant Maduravalli



Lateral Right



Lateral Left

Elephant Maduravalli

Part III

Details of Elephant Mahout and Cawadi (helper)				
1	Mahout Name	R. RAVINDRAN (94434-25169)	Cawadi Name	ASHOK KUMAR (SON OF R. RAVINDRAN) (8883460660)
2	Age	54 YRS	Age	33 YRS
3	Total experience as a mahout	40 YRS	Total experience as a mahout	18 YRS
4	Total experience with this elephant	40 YRS	Total experience with this elephant	18 YRS
5	Community	VAIDHYA	Community	VAIDYA
6	Source of training	GURUJI	Source of training	FATHER
7	Family occupation	VAIDHYA	Family occupation	MAHOUTRY
8	Education	4TH STD.	Education	-
9	Salary per year	11,000/- PM 1,32,000/- PA	Salary per year	6,000 - PM 72,000 - PA
10	Job status - Permanent/ Temporary/ Daily wage	PERMANENT SINCE 19 YRS	Job status - Permanent/ Temporary/ Daily wage	PERMANENT SINCE 2 YRS
11	Marital status	YES	Marital status	NOT MARRIED
12	Number of Children	2	Number of Children	NA
13	Usage of tools	YES	Usage of tools	YES
14	Type of tools	WOODEN STICK	Type of tools	WOODEN STICK
15	Health status of Mahout	HEALTHY	Health status of Cawadi	GOOD
16	Insurance & Type	LIC	Insurance & Type	LIC
17	Provided by employer or not	YES	Provided by employer or not	YES
18	Will his children join this profession?	YES	Will his children join this profession?	NA

Shri R. Ravindran was a single mahout for 30 yrs. On appeal to Temple, There was no response. Finally, at Rejuvenation Camp, after speaking to FB officials, permission was given for son to be employed as cawadi.

SBC Camp 14/11/15 Shri R. Ravindran 14/11/15

Elephant Maduravalli

Part IV

Details of elephant owner	
Current Ownership Certificate – Date of issue, number & name of owner /s	O.C. issued on 6.7.77 by W.O, Mundanthurai W.S., Shengottai, TN.
Microchip No. & Date	O.C. No. Wildlife-MDU-1/2006 11.9.2006 / Name of Owner: Kudalagan Temple MC 00065 E7C72 dt. 2011 (approx)
Year of acquisition of first elephant	1945-46 – 2 elephants. Died in year not known 1977 – purchased / gifted by unknown.
Number of elephants acquired since first acquisition	No records of earlier elephant.
Number of deaths of previous elephants with post mortem reports	No PM Reports.
Source of acquisition of elephants (which State)	From T.N. Mundanthurai W.S. (Keralabodu)
Amount spent to purchase elephant	Not known.
Source of spending for purchase & upkeep of elephant (with details)	Temple Funds – donations/ hundi collections / receipted donations.

Date: 14.11.2015

Signature

Suparna Baki Garguly

Shridhar Rao

(Signature)

(SUBRAHMANYAM SANTAKUMAR)

Elephant Parvathi



Questionnaire for Evaluation of Temple Elephants in Tamil Nadu

Animal Welfare Board of India, Ministry of Environment and
Forests and Climate Change
13/1, 3rd Seaward Rd, Valmiki Nagar, Thiruvannamipur, Chennai,
Tamil Nadu 600041

PART-I

(To be filled by the evaluator)

1	Full name of the Temple	A/M MEENAKSHI SUNDARESWAR TEMPLE, MADURAI - I
2	Permanent address (Street/ Town/District/Pin Code)	Same as above
3	Name of AWBI Nominee & date of evaluation	SUPARNA GANGULY DR. JAYKRISHNAN DR. SHIELA RAO (MADURAI REP.) SUBRAMANIAM S.
4	Names of Officers/ Mahouts present during the evaluation	MR. JAYA PRAKASH - JNR. ASST. MR. A. MUTHURAMU - SUPDT. - 94425-55617.
5	Name of Temple Executive Officer/ Administrator/ Officer-in-charge	MR. N. NATARAJAN E.O. / Officer in Charge (absent during inspection) JOINT COMMISSIONER
6.	Contact address of the above with phone numbers	94435-06040 (cell) 0452-2344360 (land)
7.	Total no. of elephants owned by temple as on date of evaluation	1 as on 14/11/15
8.	Name/s of elephant/s with sex and age (Name-Sex-Age)	PARVATHI (hole in the right ear) 19 YRS / FEMALE (3-4 years at time of acquisition)

Please use separate survey sheets for each elephant

Suparna Baki Ganguly
14/11/15

Shivdatta Rao
14/11/15

14/11/15

Elephant Parvathi

PART-II Tamil Nadu Temple Elephant Survey Data Sheet

1	Name of the Elephant	PARVATHI - MICROCHIP No. - 00065F2400
2	Purpose of keeping	ABHISHEKAM - 6.30 - Kala Sandhi Bringing water to Meenakshi & Shiva from River Vjderi - 1.2 kms. 18 festivals in 1 year Female leading Gods.
3	Sex	Female
4	Age (in Yrs)	19 years.
5	If male, whether Makhna/Tusker	x
6	Tusk Type - Shape/ full or broken	x
7	Source - Capture/ Captive born/ Other - please specify	12.4.2000 - 2 yrs 2 mths - Rs 80,000/- from S.V. Ganesh - P.D. Mammas RFO, CHOWKHAM Forest Div. Chowkham Dist. Palakkad A.P. Kerala
8	Year of Capture/ Birth/ Other - please specify	Hole in the right year
9	Age/height at Birth/ Capture/ Other - please specify	4' 9" at birth 2 yrs 2 months as on 12.4.2000.
10	Location of birth/ capture/ rescue/ other - please specify	FROM CHOWKHAM, A.P. TRANSFERRED TO KERALA A.P. Chowkham Forest Div. - ARUNACHAL TO Pallakad - KERALA PRADESH
11	Reason for capture/ rescue/ Other - please specify	Donation from MSP Raja, Madurai West Masi Strt. - Madurai - (businessman)
12	Type of shelter - open/ closed/ partially opened - materials used	open - outdoors closed - stable like sheds
13	Number of hours chained/day	21 hrs.

Seyanna Baki Garguly
14/11/15

Shivakumar Rao
14/11/15

14/11/15

Elephant Parvathi

14	Area of Shelter	
15	Type of flooring - earthen/concrete	STONE FLOOR, FAN, SHOWER 9 PM TO 9 AM - IN SHED - 12 HRS.
16	Type of shade provided	RCC ROOF
17	Source of water & accessibility - no. of times given water during day - how many trunkfuls taken each time	TAP. GIVEN 4 TIMES A DAY IN BUCKET. NOT ACCESSIBLE ON HER OWN.
18	Bathing - number of times per day with details of location and duration	BATHED IN SHOWER - TWICE A DAY.
19	Interaction with other elephants - Yes/No	NO
20	Interaction - specify hours per day	NO
21	Number of individuals in facility	SINGLE ELEPHANT.
22	Personality - calm/aggressive	CALM
23	Number of people killed/injured with details	NONE
24	Stereotypic behaviour - Yes/No	YES
25	Type of work	2 HRS. WALK TO RIVER TO BRING WATER FOR ABHISHEK. ATTENDS 18 FESTIVALS
26	Hours of work per day	GOES TO OTHER TEMPLES ALSO. IN A YEAR. INCLUDING MARIAMMAN.

Sujana Baki Garguly
14/11/15

Abhishek Rao
14/11/15

AA
14/11/15

Elephant Parvathi

27	Source of food	CONTRACTOR
28	Types of food (provide list)	RATIONS COOKEA & FODDER
29	Quantity of fodder & rations per day	9 kg morning & evening of rice green gram & horse gram. 170 kgs of green grass & coconut.
30	Number of calves given birth to	NA
31	Musth - reported or not	NA
32	Time of musth (month)	NA
33	Number of calves sired	NA
34	Disease/disorders reported	None
35	Veterinary doctor availability - Yes/No If no, reason	YES. Once a month
36	Amount spent on the animal per year	
37	Number of mahouts changed in last 5 years with details/reason for change	NOT CHANGED

Suparna Baki Garguly
14/11/15

Shivakumar Rao
14/11/15

Ans
14/11/15

Elephant Parvathi

Part III

Details of Elephant Mahout and Cawadi (helper)				
1	Mahout Name	BOSE RATAN 94437-60630	Cawadi Name	LAXMAN (ALSO MAHOUT)
2	Age	52 YRS	Age	50 YRS.
3	Total experience as a mahout	21 YRS	Total experience as a mahout	20 YRS.
4	Total experience with this elephant	21 YRS.	Total experience with this elephant	18 YRS.
5	Community	MAHOUTRY	Community	—
6	Source of training	FATHER & FOREST DEPT.	Source of training	UNKNOWN
7	Family occupation	MAHOUT	Family occupation	—
8	Education	7th STD.	Education	5TH STD.
9	Salary per year	19,000/- PM 2,28,000/- PA	Salary per year	18,000/ PM 2,16,000/-PA
10	Job status - Permanent/ Temporary/ Daily wage	PERMANENT	Job status - Permanent/ Temporary/ Daily wage	PERMANENT
11	Marital status	MARRIED	Marital status	MARRIED
12	Number of Children	4 SONS	Number of Children	YES
13	Usage of tools	YES	Usage of tools	YES
14	Type of tools	STICK	Type of tools	STICK.
15	Health status of Mahout	GOOD	Health status of Cawadi	GOOD
16	Insurance & Type	LIC	Insurance & Type	LIC
17	Provided by employer or not	YES	Provided by employer or not	YES
18	Will his children join this profession?	NO.	Will his children join this profession?	NO.

Sergeant Baki Garguly
14/11/15

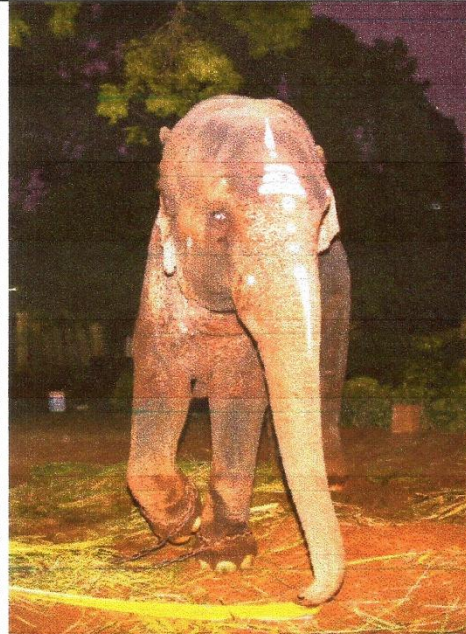

14/11/15

Ashwani Kumar
14/11/15

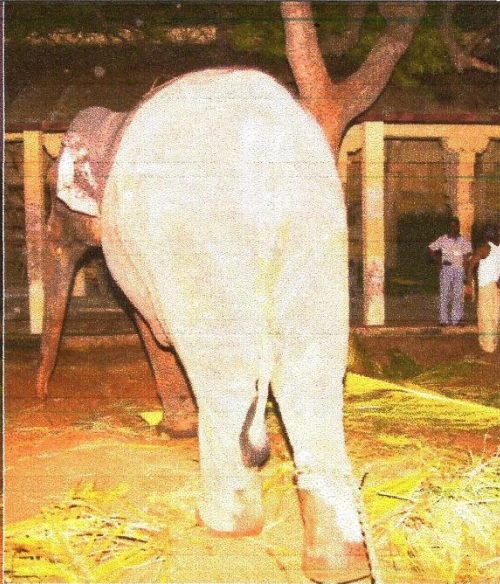
Elephant Parvathi

Photographs of Elephant

Name of Elephant: Parvathy



FRONT



REAR

Elephant Parvathi



Lateral Right



Lateral Left

Elephant Parvathi

Part IV

Details of elephant owner	
Current Ownership Certificate – Date of issue, number & name of owner /s Microchip No. & Date	NO OC ON SITE 0006SF2400 dt. 3.12.2014
Year of acquisition of first elephant	1989 - ANKAR KANNI - DIED 2007 (syn. back) - MEENAKSHI - DIED 2001 (@ age of 67)
Number of elephants acquired since first acquisition	NO PM REPORTS AVAILABLE ON SITE 2 ELEPHANTS
Number of deaths of previous elephants with post mortem reports	2 DEATHS. NO PM REPORTS
Source of acquisition of elephants (which State)	2 DEAD ELEPHANTS - SOURCE UNKNOWN. PARVATHI - SOLD BY V. GANESH, PALAKKAD DIST. KERA TO M/S MSPRATA MAHURAI FOR RS. 3,60,000/- PAID IN CASH ON 9.6.2000. (Sale deed attached)
Amount spent to purchase elephant	3,60,000/- IN CASH
Source of spending for purchase & upkeep of elephant (with details)	FROM TEMPLE FUNDS. HUNDI COLLECTION IN TEMPLE IS RS. 6.00 LACS PER DAY AS PER INFO GIVEN.

Date: 14.11.2015

Signature

Suparna Baki Garguly

Shriela N Rao



(SUBRAHMANIAN SANTA KUMAR)



Elephant Deivayanai's unhealthy smooth footpad contradicts her mahout's assertions of walking her adequately. These footpads would be the source of her future health problems leading to footrot, cracked and painful toenails, and other complications.

The crooked tail signals a damaged tailbone caused by violent handling at some point of her training.



Elephant Maduravalli of Arulmigu Koodalagar Temple, Madurai District