



**Tamil Nadu
Temple
Elephants
sent for
Permanent
Rehabilitation**

www.elsafoundationcharity.org

Data in this report printed as of Aug 2023

**All court orders / CWW order mentioned here are available on Elsa website
(except Kancheepuram case & Andal (Salem zoo) case)**

All temple elephants in TN are female (except Mariappan (was sent to FD camp))

All rehab facilities mentioned in this report are government owned

Tamil Nadu Temple Elephants Sent for Permanent Rehabilitation

S. No	Name of elephant	Name of temple	Order issued in	Location of rehab	Reason
1	Mariappan	Samayapuram Trichy	2010	Anamalai forest camp (Original abode of this elephant)	CWW order. No court case Complaint by activist and order by CWW (Oct 2010) before submitting the inspection report (there is a detailed report by Varma (Nov 2010)). CWW order says Chennai Zoo. It spent about a couple of months there and then shifted to FD camp.
2	Masini	Samayapuram Trichy	2018 (Oct)	Mudumalai forest camp (original abode of this elephant)	Court case by Antony Court order in Oct 2018 (delay of several months caused by FD and shifted in Jan 2019)
3	Gomathy	Thiruvidadaimaruthur Kumbakonam	2019	Trichy centre	Court order Case by Radha Rajan regarding the appalling condition of cattle at gaushalas inside the temples. In that case, this elephant issue came up
4	Sandhya, Indu, Jayanthi (Head count-3)	Kamakshi temple Kancheepuram	2019	Trichy centre	Court order
5	Andal	Kallagar Temple, Madurai	2019	Anamalai forest camp	CWW Order. No court case Elephant belonged to the Madurai Kallalagar temple. In Jan 2009 shifted to Mudumalai forest dept. camp for some medical treatment.

					<p>Based on the petition by an NGO in Mudumalai to shift the elephant out of camp (as they suspected that it may have TB), the elephant was moved to Salem Zoo in April 2009. (HC case filed by the NGO's advocate "Elephant Rajendran" in his name).</p> <p>Kept at the zoo for 10 years in a permanently chained, horrible, abused condition that resulted in two human fatalities and an attack on a vet with a gap of a few years.</p> <p>FD ignored the horrible condition of the animal after the first fatality (zoo security). After the second fatality (mahout) and attack on the vet on the same day, they shifted to an alternate FD camp (Not Mudumalai, due to the old court order)</p>
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As of Aug 2023, total TN temple elephants sent for rehab = 7

Elephant returned to temple, from the Trichy rehab centre

Elephant Deivanai of Thiruparan kundram temple (Madurai) was involved in multiple attacks (total 5 incidents) on mahouts and a temple staff, which resulted in one temple mahout's fatality and one mahout's serious injury at MR Palayam, Trichy rehab centre.

After mahout fatality at the temple, it was sent for rehab at Trichy centre (June 2020), but after few months it was returned to the temple (Feb 2021)

Reason NOT known

For more details refer to the foundation's report "Connecting the Dots" (Root cause of human fatalities caused by captive elephants)

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Animal & Biodiversity Charity

