

After a firing incident at Maniyaplay, Aruvveddy on **30.09.2008**, 11 persons including three Hindu priests were arrested and they being detained at the Manipay Police. On 30.09.2008 10 people including three Hindu priests were arrested and on 1st October one was arrested by the army from three different Temples of the Valikamam area in the Jaffna district. All were arrested in the temple (some while conducting special pooja for Navarathri) with allegation of possessing weapons in the THER MUDDI of the Temple. Most of the Hindu priests were photographed with army uniform and some bullets placed before them. Some of the arrestees were over the age of 50 and were admitted to the hospital following their arrest due to bad health condition. **At present out of the 11 arrested five were released remaining six were charged under three different cases.**

Following were arrested,

Sandilipay Seerani Nagammal Temple (MC Mallakam Case No B465/2008)

(First day of the Navarathiri Pooja, there were many gathered to attend the Navaraththiri first day special Pooja around 4 pm. During this time some army personnel entered and arrested seven civilian including two Hindu priests and three members of the Arrangavalar Board and other two youth who attended the special Pooja.)

Kugananththa Sharma Somaskantha Sharma of Seerani Nagammal Kovil Road Sandilipay, 24 years of age, married , father of a five months old infant, chief priest (poosagar) and sole breadwinner of the family

2) Nithiyanantha Sharma Jotheesvara Sharma of Pillaiya Kovillady, Sankuvelly Manipay, 26 years of age, assistant priest to a senior Priest (Kurrukkal).

3) Thampaiya Paramsothi of Shankarathai Junction Vaddukoodai, 59 years of age, married and father of six children age 16,15,14,13,12,6 respectively, farmer and sole bread winner of the family. He is the owner of the Temple and the president of the Temple Arrangavalar Board.

4) Kanthiya Satkunarajah of Seerani Shandilipy , 61 years of age, is a retired Technical officer of the Road Development Authority , father of two age 29 and 24. He is one of the members of the Temple Arrangavalar Board.

5) Thiyagarasa Nadarasa of “ Swarnamahal” Kadduda Gnanavairavar Patha Manipay, 66 years of age, married and father of two age 28 and 23 respectively. Works as a clerk at the temple.

6) Kunarajah piranavan of Tholpuram East Chulipuram, 22 years of age and is a student of the Jaffna Technical college following the course in plumbing. A devotee of the Seerani Nagammal and he regularly attends Poojas .

7) Perinpanathan Paramanathan of Sinthupuram Vaddu west, Vadukoddai, 24, radio mechanic at Raja Electronic at Shankaraththi Junction

Kalvayal Pillaiyar Kovil (MC Mallakam Case No B464/2008)

Arma of Kodduda Murugan Kovil, Thunaivi Shankaraththai vaddukodai, 24, married and father of two age 4 and 2, Hindu priest(Pooagar) and sole bread winner of the family

9) Mrs. Renuga Sriskanththarajah 57, of Koddavaththai Kalvalai, Sandilipay. Her husband is the Treasurer of the Kalvalai Pillaiyar Kovil Trusty Board and he is working as Lab assistant at Manipay Ladies College. Her husband was keeping all the keys of the temple.

10) Kanthar Sellaiya 69, of Kalvalai Shadilipay, a retired acting principal. He is the secretary of the Kalvalai Pillaiyar Kovil Trusty Board

Alavetti Nagammal Meenachchi Amman Temple (MC Mallakam Case No B467/2008)

11) Nadaraja Vijeyarasa of Masiyapiddy Sandilipay, 61 years of age, a farmer, married and father of three age 21, 20, and 16, and sole bread winner of the family . He is one of the members of the Trusty board of the Nagammal Meenatchi Amman Kovil and he was keeping the keys of the temple.