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# Thirupparankundram 'deepathoon' row: a timeline of events

CHENNAI – 26 Nov, 2026 Detentions and protests marked this year's Karthigai festival on November 24, 2026 in Thirupparankundram, the sacred hill known for its tradition of lighting the Karthigai lamp in Tamil Nadu every year. The police detained several senior leaders of the BJP, including State president Nainar Nagenthran. Protesters at the foothills were also detained.

The crux of these tensions is the ongoing issue of where the lamp is to be lit.

Over the last year, the Madras High Court and the Supreme Court have heard petitions for lighting the lamp at a pillar near a dargah at the summit of the Thirupparankundram hill. Usually, the lamp is lit at a lower point. It was the case this year, too, notwithstanding a Supreme Court order that ordered the lamp to be lit at the pillar near the dargah.

This year's festival might be over, but the long-standing issue is far from resolved.



Disagreements over the use of the hill by the Muslim and Hindu communities, its ownership and traditional practices have existed since 1915. Now, with the apex Court's order being a temporary arrangement, legal closure is yet to come.