



IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 21-07-2026

CORAM

THE HON'BLE DR.JUSTICE ANITA SUMANTH

AND

THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE SUNDER MOHAN

HCP No. 731 of 2026

Ranjitham  
W/o.S.Balan,  
No.23, Kumaran Koil North Street,  
Kallidaikurichi, Tirunelveli - 627416.

..Petitioner(s)

Vs

1. Union Of India, Rep by  
Secretary to Ministry of Railways, New Delhi.
2. The Inspector General (Cum) Chief Security  
Commissioner, Railways Protection Force,  
Eastern Railways, 14, Strand Road, New  
Koilaghat Building (8th Floor),  
Eastern Railways, Kolkata - 7000001.
3. The Director General of Police,  
Bhabani Bhawan, 31, Belvedere Road,  
Alipore, Kolkata - 700027.
4. The Director General of Police (DGP), Odisha,  
Buxibazar, Cuttack - 753 001.
5. The Inspector of Police,  
GRP Bhadrakh Police Station,  
Bhadrak Railway Station,  
Charampa Road, Railway Housing,  
Bhadrak - 756101, Odisha.
6. The Inspector of Police,  
GRP Cuttack Police Station,  
Cuttack District, Odisha (Orissa),  
(on point of Jurisdiction).



7. The Inspector of Police,  
Government Railway Police (GRP)\_Chennai  
Central,  
TamilNadu.

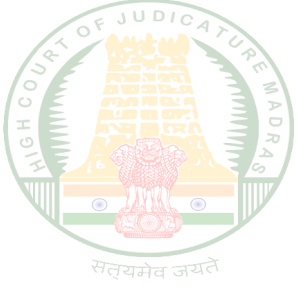
8. Sri Murugan Travels  
Rep by its Tour Manager Thiru.Paranjothi,  
No.10, Vadakkuavani Moola Veedhi,  
Madurai - 625 001.

..Respondent(s)

Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India praying to issue a Writ of Habeas Corpus or any other appropriate direction in the form of Writ directing the 4th respondent to trace the missing traveller by name Thiru.S.Balan Son of A.Sankaran aged 70 residing at No.23, Kumaran Koil North Street, Kallidaikurichi, Tirunelveli-627 416 having reserved Ticket from Howrah JN (HWH) to MGR Chennai Central Railway Station (MAS) in PNR No.6464677990, seat in CNF/M1/34/MB and boarded from Kolkata Howrah Railway Station in West Bengal in Chennai Mail No.12839 PNR No.6464677990 on 13.03.2026 23.45 hrs and get down in Bhadrakh Railway Station for refreshment and mistakenly boarded into Bagha Jatin Express No.18044 at 4.18 hrs on 14.03.2026 from Bhadrakh Railway Station heading towards Howrah Railway Station and produce him before this Court and set him at liberty.

For Petitioner(s): Mr.J.R.K.Bhavanantham

For Respondent(s): M/s.K.Ramanamoorthy,  
Senior Panel Counsel  
For R1, R2 & R7  
Mr.C.R. Malarvannan,  
Counsel For Government Of Tamil Nadu  
(Criminal Side)  
For R3 To 6

Order

(Order of the Court was made by Dr.Anita Sumanth J.)

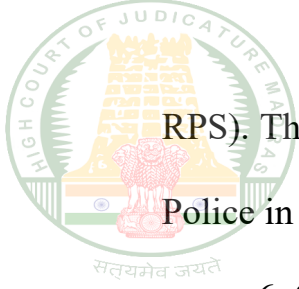
WEB COP Read this order in continuation of and in conjunction with earlier orders.

2. R5 and R6 are present online.

3. We are given to understand that there are two units within the Railway Police. One is Railway Police Force (RPF) which attends to the security of the passengers and other persons in the train and secondly, the Government Railway Police (GRP), which is an investigating agency to investigate into the crime / offences that takes place within network of railways, across the country.

4. R6 would submit that they have investigated upto Howrah, which is where their jurisdictions ends and they have not met with any success thus far. He also suggests that officers from Assam may be included in the investigation team as there is a possibility that the detenu may have taken a train to Assam.

5. Hence to continue the investigation and to expand the scope of the same, we would direct a Special Team to be formulated comprising :  
(i) Tr.Suryanarayan Das, Deputy Superintendent of Police, (SDRPO Cuttack Zone), (ii) Tr. Chittaranjan Das, Sub Inspector of Police, (Bhadrak GRPS, Odisha), (iii) Tr. Priyabrata Malik, Assistant Sub Inspector of Police (Baleswar GRPS, Odisha), (iv) Tr. Sumanta Kumar Muduli, Constable-350 (GRPS Bhadrak, Odisha), (v) Tr.Manikandan, Grade I-311, (Chennai GRPS, Chennai Central RPS) and (vi) Tr.Elumalai, PC – 172 (Chennai GRPS, Chennai Central



RPS). The team is at liberty to co-opt any officer from the Government Railway Police in Assam or other States should it be necessary.

6. Since investigation is now handed over to the Special Team, we do not see the necessity to keep this habeas corpus petition pending any longer and we close the same.

7. A status report will be filed by the Special Team to be circulated in Chambers within a month from today assuming that the detenu is not found in the meanwhile.

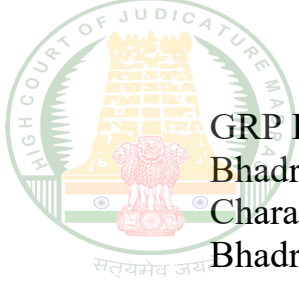
(A.S.M.,J.) (S.M.,J.)  
21-07-2026

Index: Yes/No  
Speaking order  
Neutral Citation: Yes

SSM

To

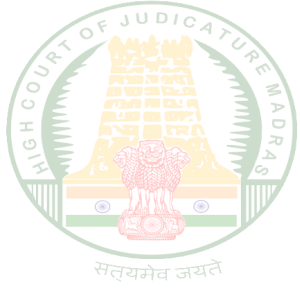
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2. The Inspector General (Cum) Chief Security  
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Central,  
TamilNadu.
8. The Public Prosecutor, High Court, Madras.



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DR.ANITA SUMANTH J.  
AND  
SUNDER MOHAN J.

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