

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED : 06.04.2016

CORAM

THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE M.JAICHANDREN
and
THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE S.NAGAMUTHU

H.C.P.No.3038/2015

Parvathi

.. Petitioner

Vs

1.The State of Tamil Nadu,
Rep.by its Secretary to Government,
Home, Prohibition and Excise Department,
Fort St.George, Chennai-600 009

2.The Commissioner of Police,
Chennai Police,
Vepery, Chennai-7.

.. Respondents

Prayer: Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, praying to issue a WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS to call for the entire records leading to the detention of the petitioner's son, namely, Ravi @ Ravichandran, son of Muthusamy, Male, aged 27 years, presently detained in Central Prison, Puzhal, Chennai, under Act 14 of 1982, as an 'Immoral Traffic Offender' vide the detention order dated 22.09.2015, on the file of the 2nd respondent, made in Memo No.1002/BCDFGISSSV/2015, and quash the same and consequently, to direct the respondents to produce the body and the person of the detenu, before this Court and thereafter, to set him at liberty from the Central Prison, Puzhal, Chennai.

For Petitioner

: Mr.M.Rajavelu

For Respondents

: Mr.A.N.Thambidurai,
Additional Public Prosecutor

ORDER

[Order of the Court was made by M.JAICHANDREN,J]

This Habeas Corpus Petition has been filed, by the mother of the detenu, praying that this Court may be pleased to issue a Writ of Habeas Corpus, to call for the records, in

Memo No.1002/BCDFGISSSV/2015, dated 22.09.2015, passed by the 2nd Respondent, detaining the detenu, namely, Ravi @ Ravichandran, S/o.Muthusamy, Male, aged 27 years, under Section 3(1) of the Tamil Nadu Prevention of Dangerous Activities of Bootleggers, Cyber Law Offenders, Drug Offenders, Forest Offenders, Goondas, Immoral Traffic Offenders, Sand Offenders, Slum Grabbers and Video Pirates Act, 1982 (Tamil Nadu Act 14/1982), branding him as a "Immoral Traffic Offender", in the Central Prison, Puzhal, Chennai, and to quash the same and to direct the respondents to produce the body of the detenu and to set him at liberty, forthwith.

2. We have heard, Mr.M.Rajavelu, the learned counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioner; Mr.A.N.Thambidurai, the learned Additional Public Prosecutor appearing on behalf of the State; and we have also perused the records, carefully.

3. Though, a number of grounds had been raised by the petitioner, while challenging the impugned order of detention, dated 22.09.2015, the learned counsel, appearing on behalf of the petitioner, had submitted that, page Nos.153 to 156 of the booklet supplied to the detenu, relating to the confession statement said to have been made by the accused in the similar case in Anti-vice Squad Chennai City Crime No.133 of 2014, are illegible, and could not be read at all. This illegible copies would deprive the detenu of making effective representation to the authorities concerned against the order of detention. Thus, the detention order is vitiated on this ground and the same is liable to be quashed.

4. The said submission made by the learned counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioner, had not been refuted by the learned Additional Public Prosecutor.

5. It is noted that the copies of documents referred to and relied upon by the detaining authority, in particular, page Nos.153 to 156 of the booklet supplied to the detenu, relating to the confession statement said to have been made by the accused in the similar case in Anti-vice Squad Chennai City Crime No.133 of 2014, are illegible, and are totally unreadable. The furnishing of such illegible copies of the confession statement, would prejudice the detenu, in making an effective representation. In such circumstances, we find that there is non-application of mind on the part of the detaining authority, in passing the detention order. Therefore, we are inclined to set aside the impugned detention order.

6. Accordingly, the Habeas Corpus Petition is allowed and the impugned detention order, dated 22.09.2015, passed by the second respondent is set aside. The detenu is directed to be released, forthwith, unless his presence is required in connection with any other case.

Sd/-
Asst.Registrar (CS IV)

/true copy/

Sub Asst. Registrar

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To

- 1.The Secretary to Government
The State of Tamil Nadu,
Rep.by its Secretary to Government,
Home, Prohibition and Excise Department,
Fort St.George,
Chennai-600 009
- 2.The Commissioner of Police,
Chennai Police,
Vepery, Chennai-7.
- 3.The Superintendent
Central Prison
Puzhal
Chennai.
4. The Joint Secretary to Government
Public (Law and order) Fort Saint George,
Chennai-9
- 5.The Additional Public Prosecutor,
High Court, Madras.

H.C.P.No.3038/2015

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