

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED : 07.04.2016

CORAM

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

H.C.P.No.3147 of 2015

Lalitha

... 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,
Greater Chennai Police,
Vepery,
Chennai-600 007

.... 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 relating to the petitioner's detention under Act 14 of 1982 vide Detention Order dated 27.10.2015 on the file of the 2nd respondent herein made in Proceedings No.BCDFGISSSV.No.1125/2015 and quash the same as illegal and consequently, direct the respondents herein to produce the petitioner's son, namely, Prakash @ Pandi, male, aged about 32 years, son of Muthu, residing at No.41-A, Vallalar Street, Puthagaram, Kolathur, Chennai-600 099 before this Court and set the petitioner's son at liberty at once from the detention now confined at Central Prison, Puzhal.

For Petitioner : Mr.V.Balu

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

ORDER

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

This Habeas Corpus Petition is filed, by the mother of the detenu, namely, Prakash @ Pandi, son of Muthu, aged 32 years, to issue a Writ of Habeas Corpus, to call for the records, in Proceedings No.BCDFGISSSV.No.1125/2015, dated 27.10.2015, passed by the 2nd Respondent, detaining the detenu, under Section 3(1) of the Tamil Nadu Prevention of Dangerous Activities of Bootleggers, Drug Offenders, Forest Offenders, Goondas, Immoral Traffic Offenders, Sand Offenders, Slum Grabbers and Video Pirates Act, 1982 (Tamil Nadu Act 14/1982), the Tamil Nadu Act 14 of 1982, branding him as a "Goonda", in the Central Prison, Puzhal, Chennai, and to quash the same and to direct the Respondents to produce the body of the detenu and set him at liberty forthwith.

2. We have heard the learned counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioner and the learned Additional Public Prosecutor appearing for the State and we have also perused the records carefully.

3. Though, several grounds have been raised in this Habeas Corpus Petition, Mr.V.Balu, the learned counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioner, had assailed the impugned detention order mainly on the ground that the detaining authority had stated, in Paragraph No.4 of the order of detention, that no bail application had been moved on behalf of the detenu, in M.3 Puzhal Police Station Crime No.1538 of 2015. However, in the detention order, it had been stated that the relatives of the detenu are taking action to take him out on bail, in M.3 Puzhal Police Station Crime No.1538 of 2015, by filing bail application before the appropriate Court. It had also been pointed out that no statements had been recorded from the relatives of the detenu with regard to the claim that they are taking steps to move bail application, on behalf of the detenu and no such statements had been furnished to the detenu.

4. The said submissions 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 from the records available that no statements had been recorded from the relatives concerned to substantiate the claim that they are taking steps to move bail applications on behalf of the detenu, to take him out on bail, in the above said case. 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 detention order.

6. Accordingly, the Habeas Corpus Petition is allowed and the impugned detention order, dated 27.10.2015, 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/-
Assistant Registrar(CS VII)

//True Copy//

Sub Assistant Registrar

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To

1. The Secretary to Government
Home, Prohibition and Excise Department
Fort St. George
Chennai 600 009.
2. The Commissioner of Police,
Greater Chennai Police,
Vepery, Chennai-600 007.
3. The Superintendent of Police,
Central Prison,
Puzhal, Chennai.
4. The Joint Secretary to Government,
Public(Law & Order),
Fort Saint George, Chennai - 9.
5. The Additional Public Prosecutor,
High Court, Madras.

KS(CO)
CA(28/04/2016)

H.C.P.No.3147 of 2015