

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED : 14.11.2016

CORAM

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

H.C.P.No.1079 of 2016

P.Saravanan

.. Petitioner

Vs

1.The Secretary to Government,
Home, Prohibition and Excise Department,
Secretariat,
Fort St. George,
Chennai-600 009.

2.The State of Tamil Nadu,
represented by the Commissioner of Police,
Office of the Commissioner of Police,
(Goondas Section), 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 records in connection with the order of detention passed by the second respondent in his proceedings Memo No.145/BCDFGISSSV/2016, dated 18.2.2016 and to set aside the same and consequently, to direct the respondents to produce the detenu Saravanan, son of Palani, the petitioner herein, now confined in the Central Prison, Puzhal, before this Court and set him at liberty, forthwith.

For Petitioner : Ms.R.Saritha

For Respondents: Mr.V.M.R.Rajentran, APP

ORDER

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

This Habeas Corpus Petition has been filed by the detenu, namely, Saravanan, son of Palani, aged about 23 years, to issue a Writ of Habeas Corpus, to call for the records, in No.145/BCDFGISSSV/2016, dated 18.2.2016, passed by the second 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 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, as well as 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, the learned counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioner, has 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 the detenu has not moved any bail application in the ground case in K-1 Sembium Police Station Crime No.69/2016, so far. It has been further stated that the relatives of the detenu are taking steps to take him out on bail, in K-1 Sembium Police Station Crime No.69/2016, by filing a 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 a bail application, on behalf of the detenu, in the said Crime No.69/2016 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 appearing on behalf of the respondents.

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 a bail application on behalf of the detenu, to take him out on bail, in the above said ground case, i.e., in Crime No.69/2016, on the file of the K1 Sembium Police Station. 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 18.2.2016, 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 (J)

/true copy/

Sub Asst. Registrar

vvk

To

1.The Secretary to Government,
Home, Prohibition and Excise Department,
Secretariat,
Fort St. George,
Chennai-600 009.

2.The Commissioner of Police,
Office of the Commissioner of Police,
(Goondas Section), Vepery,
Chennai-600 007.

3. The Superintendent
Central Prison,
Puzhal, Chennai

4. The Joint Secretary to Government
Public (Law and order)
Fort St. George, Chennai-9

5.The Public Prosecutor,
High Court, Madras.

H.C.P.No.1079 of 2016

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