

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED : 23.12.2016

CORAM

THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE M.JAICHANDREN
and
THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE T.MATHIVANAN

H.C.P.No.1437 of 2016

Radha .. Petitioner/wife of detenue
Vs

1. The State of Tamilnadu,
rep by its Secretary to the Government,
Home, Prohibition and Excise Department,
Fort St. George,
Chennai-9.
 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 husband Venkatesan, son of Mohan, aged about 25 years, lodged in Central Prison, Puzhal, and has been detailed under act 14/82 as a "Goondas" Chennai, vide detention order, dated 29.6.2016, on the file of the second respondent, made in Memo No.610/BCDFGISSSV/2016 and quash the same and consequently, to direct the respondents to produce the body and person of the detenu, before this court and to set him at liberty.

For Petitioner : Mr.M.Rajavelu

For Respondents : Mr.V.M.R.Rajentran,
Additional Public Prosecutor

ORDER

This Habeas Corpus Petition has been filed, by the wife of the detenu, namely, Venkatesan, aged about 25 years, son of Mohan, praying that this Court may be pleased to issue a Writ of Habeas Corpus, to call for the records, in BCDFGISSSV No.610/2016, dated 29.6.2016, passed by the second respondent, detaining the detenu 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 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 to 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 on behalf of the State and we have also perused the records, carefully.

3. Though, several grounds had been raised by the petitioner, while challenging the impugned order of detention, dated 29.6.2016, the learned counsel, appearing on behalf of the petitioner, had submitted that, in the booklet furnished to the detenu, page Nos.78,79, 91 to 94 and 103 to 109, which are the statements of witnesses and also a confessional statement, are found illegible. Hence, the detenu had been prevented from making an effective representation against the impugned order of detention, dated 29.6.2016. Thus, the detention order is vitiated 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 appearing on behalf of the respondents.

5. A perusal of the booklet supplied to the detenu, would show that page Nos.78, 79, 91 to 94 and 103 to 109, which are the copies of the statements of the witnesses and the confessional statement, are illegible. As such, we find that the furnishing of the illegible copies of the statements of the witnesses, would prejudice the detenu, in making an effective representation against the impugned order of detention, dated 29.6.2016. 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 29.6.2016, 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.

s/d-
Assistant Registrar (CO)

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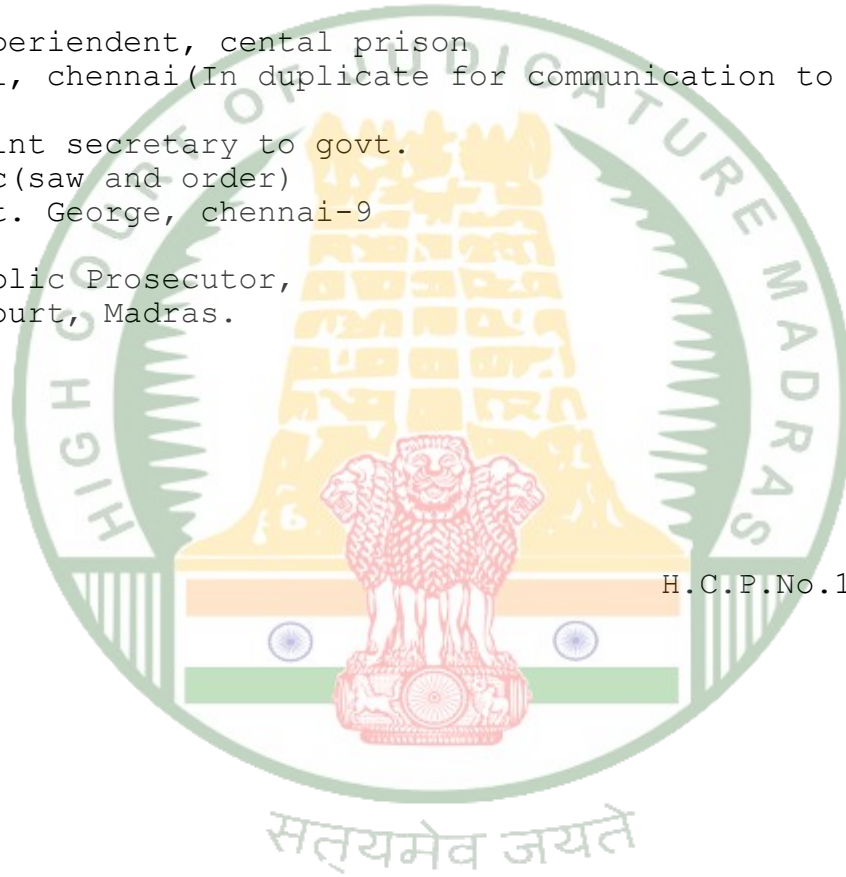
Sub-Assistant Registrar

To

1. The 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 Superiendent, cental prison
puzhal, chennai(In duplicate for communication to detenue)
4. The joint secretary to govt.
public(saw and order)
Fort.st. George, chennai-9
5. The Public Prosecutor,
High Court, Madras.

NRI
sp/23/1

H.C.P.No.1437 of 2016



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