



BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT
DATED: 23.05.2016

CORAM :

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE R.MAHADEVAN
and
THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE S.S.SUNDAR

Habeas Corpus Petition (MD) No.415 of 2016

Sridevi

... Petitioner

Vs.

1.State represented by
The District Collector and
District Magistrate,
Tirunelveli District,
Tirunelveli.

2.The Principal Secretary to Government,
Home Prohibition and Excise (xiv) Department,
Secretariat,
Chennai 9.

... Respondents

Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India praying for issuance of a Writ of Habeas Corpus, call for the records from the first respondent in M.H.S.Confdl. No. 15/2016 dated 16.02.2016 by setting aside the said order of detention passed by the first respondent and setting the detenu Magesh aged 35 years S/o. Kathirvelsami at liberty now detained in the Central Prison Palayamkottai.

For Petitioner

: Mr.V.Kathirvelu,
Senior Counsel for Mr.K.Prabhu

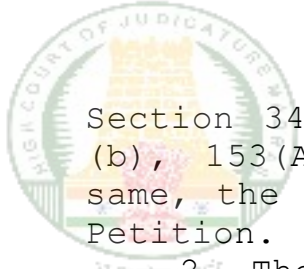
For Respondents

: Mr.C.Ramesh,
Additional Public Prosecutor.

ORDER

(Order of the Court was made by **R.MAHADEVAN,J**)

The petitioner is the wife of the detenu, namely, Magesh, son of Kathirvelsami, aged 35 years, who has been detained under the Tamil Nadu Act 14 of 1982 by the order of the first respondent, in his proceedings in M.H.S.Confdl.No.15/2016, dated 16.02.2016, branding him as a 'Goonda', taking note of the ground case in Crime No.139 of 2015 on the file of Thirukkurungudi Police Station registered for the alleged offence punishable under Section 302 I.P.C. altered into Sections 147, 148, 302, 120(b), 109 I.P.C. r/w



Section 34 I.P.C. altered into Sections 147, 148, 364, 302, 120 (b), 153(A), 109 I.P.C. r/w Section 34 I.P.C. Challenging the same, the petitioner is before this Court with this Habeas Corpus Petition.

2. Though this matter stood adjourned to 08.06.2016, it has been listed before this Court as per the Special Criminal Division Bench sitting arrangements during Vacation Holidays and by consent of either side, this matter is taken up for disposal.

3. We have heard the learned Senior Counsel appearing for the petitioner and the learned Additional Public Prosecutor appearing for the respondents.

4. Though several grounds have been raised in this petition, the learned Senior Counsel appearing for the petitioner would mainly focus his argument on the ground that the subjective satisfaction arrived at by the Detaining Authority that there was every real possibility for the detenu to come out on bail is not based on any material. Moreover, the detaining authority referred to a bail order in a different case when no bail application was pending as on the date of the order of detention in the ground case. The said comparison to express subjective satisfaction is against the dictum of the Hon'ble Supreme Court consisting of three Hon'ble Judges in **Rekha Vs. State of Tamil Nadu**, reported in **2011 (5) SCC 244** and also the judgment of a Division Bench of the Madras High Court in **H.C.P[MD].No.1154 of 2015**, dated **11.08.2015** [**Chandrakala Vs. The Secretary to Government**] and thus, the detention order is liable to be set aside. This, according to the learned Senior Counsel appearing for the petitioner is totally baseless and reflecting the total non-application of mind of the Detaining Authority.

5. Despite time granted, no counter affidavit is forthcoming on the side of the respondents so far. Also, the learned Additional Public Prosecutor is not in a position to dispute the above fact.

6. We have considered the above said submissions and perused the materials available on record.

7. Regarding the subjective satisfaction of the detaining authority as to the real possibility of the detenu coming out on bail in the ground case, the detaining authority made the following observation:

"5. I am also aware that the sponsoring Police officer has stated that Thirumathi.Sridevi wife of Thiru.Magesh is taking action to take out her husband on bail for Thirukkurungudi Police Station crime number 139/2015. I am aware that Thiru.Magesh is in remand in Thirukkurungudi Police Station crime number 139/2015 and in this case he has not filed any bail application so far. I am also aware that there is **real possibility** of his coming out on bail

by filing bail application for the above case since in similar cases bails are granted by the appropriate courts. I am also aware that in a



similar case bail has been granted to Nelson Geerald Bright in CRMP.No.1479/2015 dated 12.03.2015 by the Principal Sessions Court, Tirunelveli. I therefore infer that there is **real possibility** of his (Thiru.Magesh) coming out on bail in Thirukkurungudi Police Station crime number 139/2015, since bails are grnated by the appropriate courts in such cases.

...."

8. It is an admitted fact that no bail application was filed by the detenu in the ground case and the same was also taken note of by the detaining authority. When no bail application is pending, the detaining authority could refer to a bail granted to a co-accused in the same case to express the subjective satisfaction of the real possibility of the detenu coming out on bail. Only in case a bail application is pending, the detaining authority can refer to a similar case in which bail was granted to the accused therein, in support of his subjective satisfaction regarding the real possibility of the detenu coming out on bail. It has been held so by a Division Bench of the Madras High Court in **H.C.P.No.1154 of 2015**, dated **11.08.2015** [**Chandrakala Vs. The Secretary to Government**], following the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court consisting of three Hon'ble Judges in **Rekha Vs. State of Tamil Nadu**, reported in **2011 (5) SCC 244**, which position was clarified by a Division Bench of the Hon'ble Supreme Court consisting of two Hon'ble Judges in **Huidrom Konungjao Singh Vs. State of Manipur and others** reported in **(2012) 7 SCC 181**.

9. Hence, we come to the conclusion that the subjective satisfaction expressed by the detaining authority regarding the real possibility of the detenu coming out on bail in the ground case to justify the clamping of the order of detention, while the detenu was in custody as a remand prisoner, can be termed "ipse dixit" not supported by cogent materials. On that ground alone, the order of detention is liable to be set aside.

10. In the result, the impugned detention order passed by the first respondent, detaining the detenu, namely, Magesh, son of Kathirvelsami, aged 35 years, made in M.H.S.Confdl.No.15/2016, dated 16.02.2016 is quashed and the Habeas Corpus Petition is allowed. The above named detenu is ordered to be set at liberty forthwith, unless his custody is required in connection with any other case.

Sd/-

Assistant Registrar(P&A)

/TRUE COPY/

Sub Assistant Registrar



To

1.The District Collector and
District Magistrate,
Tirunelveli District,
Tirunelveli.

2.The Principal Secretary to Government,
Home Prohibition and Excise (xiv) Department,
Secretariat,
Chennai 9.

3.The Additional Public Prosecutor,
Madurai Bench of Madras High Court,
Madurai.

4.Central Prison, Palayamkottai.

+1cc to M/S.K.Prabhu Advocate SR NO: 26829

sms

JA/NGM-PM/SAR-II/03/06/2016/4P-6C

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