

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED : 13.10.2017

CORAM

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE M.S.RAMESH

CrI.O.P.No.21599 of 2017

P.M.Nagarajan

... Petitioner /Accused

Vs

1. Poujiya Begam

2. The State Rep. by

The Inspector of Police,
Annamalai Police Station,
Coimbatore District.

... Respondents

Prayer : Criminal Original Petition filed under Section 482 Cr.P.C. to direct the learned Judicial Magistrate No.I, Pollachi to recall the Non Bailable Warrant issued against the petitioner in S.T.C.No.260 of 2015 on the file of the learned Judicial Magistrate No.I, Pollachi.

For Petitioner : Mr.R.Sasikumar

For Respondents

R1 : No appearance

R2 : Mr.P.Govindarajan
Additional Public Prosecutor

ORDER

This Criminal Original Petition has been filed seeking a direction to the learned Judicial Magistrate No.I, Pollachi to recall the Non Bailable Warrant issued against the petitioner in S.T.C.No.260 of 2015.

2. This Court in an earlier occasion had elaborately dealt with the issue as to whether the High Court, exercising its inhereint powers under Section 482 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, is empowered to quash or recall a Non-bailable Warrant when an alternate remedy under Section 70 (2) of the Code of Criminal Procedure empowers cancellation of the warrant by the Court that had issued the warrant.

3. After analysing the principles laid down in the various decisions of the Honourable Supreme Court and our High Court in detail, this Court in the order dated 07.09.2017 in Crl.O.P.No.13276 of 2017 etc., batch, has held as follows:

"18.It is also brought to my notice that apart from various other reasons for the long pendency of cases before the trial Courts, the non execution of Non Bailable Warrant is one among the reasons. This fact is reiterated through the last data collected by the NCRB. In most of these pending cases, it is seen that whenever a Non Bailable warrant is kept pending execution, the usual practice among many of the Court is to adjourn the case on the ground that "Non Bailable Warrant is pending".

19.In heinous crimes, where there is deliberate and continuous non appearance of the accused, the trial Court may proclaim him as person absconding under Section 82 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

20.Thus, under Section 82 of Cr.P.C., there can be no impediment on the part of the trial Court to pronounce him as a proclaimed offender, instead of keeping the matter pending indefinitely for the purpose of having the warrant executed. Hence, the existence of the fourth category of cases cannot be a ground to preclude the High Court to do justice in the first three categories particularly, when they constitute a major portion of the pending cases in the State of Tamil Nadu, in which, Non Bailable Warrants are pending execution.

21.To sum up the findings rendered by me, it is reiterated that the issuance of Bailable Warrant or Non Bailable Warrant should be exercised with extreme caution and in the rarest of cases, bearing in mind that the pendency of Non Bailable Warrant is one of the major factors for the long pendency of cases before the trial Court. The trial Court shall also scrupulously follow the guidelines imposed in Inder Mohan Gowsami's case (supra) as well as the observations made in the present case while issuing Non Bailable Warrants or recalling the Non Bailable Warrants."

4. In the present case, though the Non-bailable warrant was issued as early as on 15.09.2017, it has been kept pending

without execution till date. In view of the observations made in the earlier order extracted above, it would be appropriate to re-call the warrant issued by the Trial Court.

5. Hence, this Criminal Original Petition stands allowed. The Non Bailable warrant issued on 15.09.2017 is recalled. Consequently, the accused is directed to appear before the learned Judicial Magistrate No.I, Pollachi in connection with S.T.C.No.206 of 2015 within one week from the date of receipt a copy of this order and on subsequent hearing dates without fail.

s/d-
Assistant Registrar(CS-III)

True Copy

Sub-Assistant Registrar

rts

To

1. The Judicial Magistrate No I
Pollachi.

2. The Inspector of Police,
Annamalai Police Station,
Coimbatore District.

3. The Public Prosecutor,
High Court, Madras.

+1 CC to Mr.R. Sasikumar, advocate sr 73914.

सत्यमेव जयते

Cr1.O.P.No.21599 of 2017

GJII(CO)
SP(07/11/2017)

WEB COPY