

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED : 19.12.2018

CORAM:

THE HONOURABLE Mr.JUSTICE C.T.SELVAM
and
THE HONOURABLE Mrs.JUSTICE R.HEMALATHA

H.C.P. No.2152 of 2018

Subhashini

... Petitioner

-Vs-

1.The Secretary to the Government,
Home Prohibition & Excise Department,
Secretariat,
Chennai - 600 009.

2.District Collector & District Magistrate,
Tiruvannamalai District, Tiruvannamalai.

...Respondents

PRAYER: Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, to issue a Writ of Habeas Corpus, calling for the records in connection with the order of detention passed by the second respondent dated 17.09.2018 in D.O.No.42/2018-C2 against the petitioner husband Sampath, male aged 37 years, S/o. Krishnapillai, who is confined at Central Prison, Vellore and set aside the same and direct the respondents to produce the detenu before the Hon'ble Court and set him at liberty.

For Petitioner : Mr.D.Balaji

For Respondents: Mr.R.Prathap Kumar
Additional Public Prosecutor

ORDER

[Order of the Court was made by C.T.SELVAM, J.]

The petitioner, who is the wife of the detenu, namely, Sampath, Son of Krishnapillai, aged 37 years, challenges the impugned order of detention, dated 17.09.2018 in D.O.No.42/2018-C2 detaining her wife as "Bootlegger", as contemplated under Section 2(b) of the Tamil Nadu Prevention of dangerous activities of Boot leggers, Drug Offenders, Forest Offenders, Goondas, Immoral Traffic Offenders, Sand Offenders, Slum-grabbers and Video Pirates Act, 1982 (Tamil Nadu Act 14/1982).

2. The detenu has come to adverse notice in the following cases:-

S.No.	Police Station & Crime No.	Section of Law
1.	Cheyyar Prohibition Enforcement Wing Police Station Crime No.162/2017	U/s. 4(1)(aa) r/w 4(1-A)(ii) TNP Act 1937 @ 4(1)(aa) TNP Act 1937
2.	Cheyyar Prohibition Enforcement Wing Crime No.703/2018	4(1) (aaa) r/w 4(1-A)(ii) TNP Act 1937 and 6,7 RS rules 2000

The ground case has been registered against the detenu in Crime No.710/2018 on the file of the Inspector of Police, Cheyyar Prohibition Enforcement Wing for offences u/s. 4(1)(i) r/w 4(1-A)(ii) Tamil Nadu Prohibition Act, 1937. The detention order has been passed by second respondent in D.O.No.42/2018-C2 on 17.09.2018.

3. We have heard the learned counsel for the petitioner and the learned Additional Public Prosecutor appearing for the respondents. We have also perused the records produced by the Detaining Authority.

4. Though several grounds have been raised in the Habeas Corpus Petition, the learned counsel appearing for the petitioner, confines his argument only in respect of non-application of mind on the part of the detaining authority in passing the order of detention.

5. The Grounds of Detention would reveal that 2 adverse cases have been registered against the detenu and a ground case was registered against him in Cr.No.710/2018 for the offences u/s. 4(1)(i) r/w 4(1-A)(ii) Tamil Nadu Prohibition Act, 1937. Admittedly, the detenu has not moved any bail application in 1st adverse case Crime No.162/2017. Therefore, the probability of release of the detenu imminently does not arise. Hence, we are inclined to set aside the detention order. Though the detaining authority has made reliance on similar case, in which an accused was granted bail, the facts involved in those cases are different. The principle of similarity cannot be applied mechanically. Normally, bails are granted based on the facts and circumstances of each case. Therefore, similar case plea, cannot be taken into consideration. Hence, there is no material to substantiate that there is real possibility of the detenu coming out on bail and the said order was passed without application of mind.

6. In the result, the Habeas Corpus Petition is allowed and the order of detention in D.O.No.42/2018-C2 dated 17.09.2018, passed by the second respondent is set aside. The detenu, namely, Sampath, Son of Krishnapillai, aged about 37 years, is directed to be released forthwith unless his detention is required in connection with any other case.

-s/d-

Deputy Registrar

True Copy

Sub-Assistant Registrar

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To:

- 1.The Secretary to the Government,
Home Prohibition & Excise Department,
Secretariat,
Chennai - 600 009.
- 2.District Collector & District Magistrate,
Tiruvannamalai District, Tiruvannamalai.
- 3.The Superintendent,
Central Prison, Vellore.
- 4.The Joint Secretary
Public (Law and order) Department,
Secretariat, Chennai - 600 009.
- 5.The Public Prosecutor
High Court, Madras.

सत्यमेव जयते

H.C.P.No.2152 of 2018

SP(24/01/2019)

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