

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.2321 of 2018

Yasodha

... Petitioner

-Vs-

1. The State of Tamil Nadu
Rep. By the Secretary to the Government,
Home, Prohibition & Excise Department,
Fort St.George,
Chennai - 600 009.

2. The Commissioner of Police,
Greater Chennai City,
Vepery, Chennai - 600 007.

....Respondents

PRAYER: Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, to issue a Writ of Habeas Corpus, calling for the records relating to the detention order in Memo No.544/BCDFGISSSV/2018, dated 17.07.2018 passed by the 2nd respondent under the Tamilnadu Act 14 of 1982 and set aside the same and direct the respondent to produce the petitioner's husband Stephen Raj, S/o. Vinayagam aged about 29 years, the detainee, now confined in Central Prison, Puzhal, Chennai before this Hon'ble Court and set the petitioner's husband Stephen Raj S/o. Vinayagam aged about 29 years the detainee herein at liberty.

For Petitioner : Mr.U.Yuvaraj

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, Stephen Raj, Son of Vinayagam, aged 29 years, challenges the impugned order of detention, dated 17.07.2018 in No.544/BCDFGISSSV/2018 detaining her husband as "GOONDA", as contemplated under Section 2(f) 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.	H-4 Korukkupet Police Station Crime No.139/2017	341, 294(b), 323 & 506 (ii) IPC
2.	H-1 Washermenpet Police Station Crime No.446/2017	379 IPC
3.	C-2 Elephantgate Police Station Crime No.343/2018	457 & 380 IPC

The ground case has been registered against the detenu in Crime No.486/2018 on the file of the Inspector of Police, C-2 Elephantgate Police Station for offences u/s 341, 294(b), 336, 427, 397 & 506(ii) IPC. The detention order has been passed by second respondent in No.544/BCDFGISSSV/2018 on 17.07.2018.

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 3 adverse cases have been registered against the detenu and a ground case was registered against him in Cr.No.486/2018 for the offences 341, 294(b), 336, 427, 397 and 506(ii) IPC. Admittedly, the detenu has not moved any bail application in the 3rd adverse case Crime No.343/2018. 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 Memo No.544/BCDFGISSSV/2018 dated 17.07.2018, passed by the second respondent is set aside. The detenu, namely, Stephen Raj, Son of Vinayagam, aged about 29 years, is directed to be released forthwith unless his detention is required in connection with any other case.

Sd/-
Deputy Registrar

//True Copy//

Sub Assistant Registrar

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To:

1. The Secretary to the Government,
Home, Prohibition & Excise Department,
Fort St.George,
Chennai - 600 009.
2. The Commissioner of Police,
Greater Chennai City,
Vepery, Chennai - 600 007.
3. The Superintendent,
Central Prison, Puzhal,
Chennai.
4. The Joint Secretary
Public (Law and order) Department,
Secretariat, Chennai - 600 009.
5. The Public Prosecutor
High Court, Madras.

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SSM(23/01/2019)