

**BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT****DATED: 27.07.2018****CORAM:****THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE M.S. RAMESH****W.P. (MD) No.16510 of 2018****WEB COPY**

T.Arjun

... Petitioner

vs.

1. The District Collector,
Tiruchirapalli District.

2. The Assistant Director of Mines,
Collectorate,
Tiruchirapalli,
Tiruchirappalli District.

3. The Inspector of Police,
Navalpattu Police Station,
Srirengam Taluk and
Tiruchirapalli District.

... Respondents

PRAYER: Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India for issuance of Writ of Mandamus directing the first respondent to release the vehicle bearing registration No.TN32 S-9195 on the condition as deemed fit and proper to the circumstances, by considering petitioner's representation dated 18.07.2018.

For Petitioner : Mr.K.K.Samy

For Respondents : Mr.J.Gunaseelanmuthiah
Additional Government Pleader**O R D E R**

The petitioner seeks for a writ of mandamus directing the first respondent to release the vehicle bearing registration No.TN32 S-9195 on the condition as deemed fit and proper to the circumstances, by considering petitioner's representation dated 18.07.2018.

2. According to the petitioner, even though his driver had plied the aforesaid vehicle with all relevant documents, the second respondent has seized the vehicle.

3. On the other hand, it is submitted by the learned Additional Government Pleader appearing for the respondents that the vehicle was seized as the same was plied without valid papers, including registration certificate books and transport permit for transporting sand.



4. In any event, as the vehicle is under the custody of the respondents having been seized on 21.06.2018 and considering the fact that if the same is allowed to be kept idle by exposing the same to sun and rain, it would certainly diminish its value. Therefore, pending proceedings before the respondents, this Court is of the view that the vehicle can be released by imposing certain conditions on the petitioner for release of the aforesaid vehicle.

5. Accordingly, the first respondent is directed to release the vehicle in question to the petitioner within a period of seven days from the date of receipt of a copy of this order subject to the following conditions:

- “(i) The petitioner shall produce documents before the first respondent under whose custody the vehicle is kept, to establish the ownership of the vehicle in question;
- (ii) The petitioner shall deposit a sum of Rs.50,000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand only) before the first respondent herein;
- (iii) The petitioner shall give an undertaking that he will not use the vehicle for any illegal activities in future and shall produce the same as and when required by the respondents;
- (iv) On doing so, the vehicle in question shall be returned to the petitioner;
- (v) The petitioner shall not alienate the vehicle in question till the disposal of the proceedings before the authority concerned;
- (vi) The first respondent is directed to complete the enquiry within a period of four weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of this order; and
- (vii) The petitioner is also directed to participate in the enquiry to be conducted by the first respondent.”

6. The writ petition is ordered accordingly. No costs.

sd/-

Assistant Registrar (CS-II)

/True Copy/



To

1. The District Collector,
Tiruchirapalli District.
2. The Assistant Director of Mines,
Collectorate,
Tiruchirapalli,
Tiruchirappalli District.
3. The Inspector of Police,
Navalpattu Police Station,
Srirengam Taluk and
Tiruchirapalli District.

+1cc to Mr.K.K.Samy, Advocate SR.No.75366

+1cc to SPECIAL GOVERNMENT PLEADER,SR.No.75543

Rmk

MK/SKN/SAR 3/07.08.2018/3P/6C

W.P. (MD) No.16510 of 2018
27.07.2018