

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS
DATED: 25.02.2019

CORAM
THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE R.SUBBIAH
AND
THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE KRISHNAN RAMASAMY

W.P.No.4999 of 2019

Jayaraman
S/o Duraikannu

..Petitioner

-VS-

1. The Revenue Divisional Officer
Office of the Revenue Divisional Officer
Viruthachalam
Cuddalore District
2. The Thasildar
Taluk Office
Tittakudi, Cuddalore District
3. The Station House Officer
Karuveppillankurichi Police Station
Cuddalore District
4. The Assistant Director
Tamil Nadu Mines and Minerals
Cuddalore District

..Respondents

Petition under Article 226 of the Constitution of India,
praying for the issue of a Writ of Mandamus, directing the
respondents to release the Tractor bearing Registration No.TN 91
U 8780 and hand over to the petitioner, based on the
representation dated on 14.02.2019.

For Petitioner :: Mr.Ilayaraja Kandasamy

For Respondents:: Mr.D.Raghu
Government Advocate

ORDER

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

The petitioner has filed the above writ petition praying for
issuance of a writ of mandamus, directing the respondents to
release the Tractor bearing Registration No.TN 91 U 8780 and
hand over to the petitioner, based on the representation dated
on 14.02.2019.

2. Heard the learned counsel appearing for the petitioner and the learned Government Advocate appearing for the respondents.

3. According to the petitioner, the respondents have seized the vehicle in question on 1.10.2018 on the ground of illegal mining of river sand and till date, no order for release of the said vehicle had been passed by the respondents. Hence, he has come forward with the present writ petition.

4. On the other hand, it is submitted by the learned Government Advocate appearing for the respondents that the vehicle in question was used for illegal transportation of river sand and hence the vehicle was seized and a case was registered in Crime No.262 of 2018.

5. In any event, as the vehicle is under the custody of the respondents from the date of seizure and considering the fact that if the same is allowed to be kept idle by exposing the same to rain and shine, it would certainly diminish its value, this Court is of the view that the vehicle in question may be released by imposing conditions on the petitioner.

6. Accordingly, the respondents are directed to release the vehicle in question to the petitioner within a period of 7 days from the date of compliance of the below mentioned condition Nos.(i) to (iii) :

(i) The petitioner shall deposit a sum of Rs.25,000/- (Rupees twenty five thousand only) before the jurisdictional Tahsildar concerned as non-refundable deposit. After receipt of the above said amount, the same will have to be deposited by the jurisdictional Tahsildar concerned, to the credit of the District Mines and Minerals Foundation Trust as non-refundable deposit.

(ii) The petitioner shall execute a personal bond for a sum of Rs.10,000/- (Rupees ten thousand only) with two sureties each for a like sum to the satisfaction of the concerned jurisdictional Judicial Magistrate.

(iii) The petitioner shall give an undertaking before the respondent(s)/authority concerned stating that he will not use the vehicle in question for any illegal activities in future and shall produce the same as and when required by the respondents and also the trial Court, failing which the respondents/trial Court is/are at liberty to confiscate the vehicle.

(iv) The petitioner shall not alienate the vehicle in question till the disposal of the proceedings before the authority concerned.

(v) The petitioner is also directed to participate in the enquiry to be conducted by the respondents.

7. With the above observations and directions, this writ petition is disposed of. No costs.

Sd/-
Assistant Registrar(CO)

//True Copy//

Sub Assistant Registrar

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To

- 1.The Revenue Divisional Officer
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Cuddalore District
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- 3.The Station House Officer
Karuveppillankurichi Police Station
Cuddalore District
- 4.The Assistant Director
Tamil Nadu Mines and Minerals
Cuddalore District.

+1cc to Mr.Ilayaraja Kandasamy, Advocate, S.R.No.16911
+1cc to the Government Pleader, S.R.No.18209

rrs 27/02/2019

W.P.No.4999 of 2019

सत्यमेव जयते

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