

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED : 20.06.2019

CORAM

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE R.SUBBIAH
and
THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE C.SARAVANAN

Writ Petition No.16977 of 2019

Rajesh
S/o.Mani

...Petitioner

Vs

The Inspector of Police,
Pullambakkam Police Station,
Thiruvallur District.

... Respondent

Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of The Constitution of India praying for the issuance of a Writ of Mandamus directing respondent to release the petitioner's vehicle viz., TATA 207 Truck bearing Registration No.TN-37-BM-9805, Chassis No.MAT478011A9H26790 and Engine No.497SP28HZY636921, seized by respondent in Crime No.150 of 2019 within a stipulated period.

For Petitioner : Mr.S.Raja Ravi Varma
For Respondent : Mr.V.Shanmuga Sundar
Special Government Pleader

ORDER

[Order was delivered by **R.SUBBIAH, J**]

Petitioner has filed the above Writ Petition praying for issuance of a Writ of Mandamus directing respondent to release the petitioner's vehicle viz., TATA 207 Truck bearing Registration No.TN-37-BM-9805, Chassis No.MAT478011A9H26790 and Engine No.497SP28HZY636921, seized by respondent on 12.05.2019 in Crime No.150 of 2019.

2. Heard learned counsel for petitioner and learned Special Government Pleader for respondent.

3. Learned counsel for petitioner submits that respondent has seized the vehicle in question on 12.05.2019 on the ground of illegal carrying of River Sand and till date, no order for release of the said vehicle had been passed by respondent. Hence, he has come forward with the present Writ Petition.

4. On the other hand, it is submitted by learned Special Government Pleader for respondent that the vehicle in question was used for illegal transportation of mines and minerals like River Sand and hence, the vehicle was seized. He would further submit that petitioner has no previous case.

5. In any event, as the vehicle is under the custody of the respondent 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 their value, this Court is of the view that the vehicle in question may be released by imposing conditions on the petitioner.

6. Accordingly, the respondent is 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) 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) 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) Petitioner shall give an undertaking before the respondent/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 respondent and also the trial Court, failing which the

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respondent/trial Court is/are at liberty to confiscate the vehicle.

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

(v) Petitioner is also directed to participate in the enquiry to be conducted by the respondent.

With the above observations and directions, this Writ Petition is disposed of. No costs.

[R.P.S., J]

[C.S.N., J]

20.06.2019

Note to office: Issue order copy within two weeks

Speaking (or) Non Speaking Order

Index : Yes/ No,

Internet : Yes

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To

The Inspector of Police,
 Pullarambakkam Police Station,
 Thiruvallur District.

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