

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED : 26.08.2019

CORAM

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

Writ Petition No.24767 of 2019

R.Ajith

...Petitioner

Vs

1.The Revenue Divisional Officer,
RDO Building,
Ranipet, Vellore District.

2.Inspector of Police,
Rathinagiri Police Station,
Rathinagiri,
Vellore District.

... Respondents

Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of The Constitution of India praying for the issuance of a Writ of Mandamus directing second respondent to release the petitioner's Bullock Cart, which is under the custody of the second respondent.

For Petitioner : Mr.B.S.Ramesh

For Respondents: Mr.E.Balamurugan
Special Government Pleader

सत्यमेव जयते
O R D E R

[Order was made by R.SUBBIAH, J]

Petitioner has filed the above Writ Petition praying for issuance of a Writ of Mandamus directing second respondent to release the petitioner's Bullock Cart, seized by second respondent.

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

3. According to petitioner, second respondent had seized the bullock cart in question on the ground of illegal carrying of

River Sand and till date, no order for release of the said bullock cart 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 learned Special Government Pleader for respondents that the bullock cart in question was used for illegal transportation of mines and minerals like River Sand and hence, the bullock cart was seized. He would further submit that the petitioner has one previous case.

5. In any event, as the bullock cart is under the custody of the second 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 its value, this Court is of the view that the bullock cart in question may be released by imposing conditions on the petitioner.

6. Accordingly, the 2nd respondent is directed to release the bullock cart 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) Since the petitioner has one previous case, he shall deposit a sum of Rs.5,000/- (Rupees 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 respondents/authority concerned stating that he will not use the bullock cart 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 bullock cart.
- (iv) Petitioner shall not alienate the bullock cart 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 respondents.

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

Sd/-
Assistant Registrar

//True Copy//

Sub Assistant Registrar

arb/smv

To

1.The Revenue Divisional Officer,
RDO Building,
Ranipet, Vellore District.

2.Inspector of Police,
Rathinagiri Police Station,
Rathinagiri,
Vellore District.

+1cc to Mr.B.S.Ramesh, Advocate Sr.72868
+1cc to the Government Pleader Sr.74098

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gj II[col]
srg 12/09/2019

सत्यमेव जयते

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