



BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED:10.12.2019

CORAM:

THE HONOURABLE MRS.JUSTICE PUSHPA SATHYANARAYANA

W.P (MD)No.26202 of 2019

Vinoth Kumar

... Petitioner

Vs.

1.The Revenue Divisional Officer,
Office of the Revenue Divisional Office,
Musiri,
Trichy District.

2.The Assistant Director,
Department of Geology and Mining,
Trichy District.

3.The Inspector of Police,
Jambunathapuram Police Station,
Trichy District.

... Respondents

Prayer: Writ Petition is filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India to issue a Writ of Mandamus, directing the first respondent to release the petitioner's Tractor and Trailer bearing Registration No.TN 48 AT 6411 seized on 05.05.2019 by the third respondent by considering the petitioner's representation dated 18.06.2019 within the time limit stipulated by this Court.

For Petitioner : Mr.A.Uthayakumar

For Respondents : Mr.m.Murugan

Government Advocate

ORDER

Mr.M.Murugan, learned Government Advocate takes notice for the respondents.

2. By consent, the writ petition is taken up for disposal at the admission stage itself.

3. This Writ petition has been filed by the petitioner praying for issuance of a Writ of Mandamus, directing the first respondent to release the petitioner's Tractor and Trailer bearing Registration No. TN 48 AT 6211 seized by the third respondent on



05.05.2019 by considering the petitioner's representation dated 18.06.2019.

4. According to the petitioner, even though he had plied the aforesaid vehicle with all relevant documents, the third respondent has seized the vehicle.

5. On the other hand, it is submitted by the learned Government Advocate appearing for the respondents that the vehicle was seized as the same was plied without valid papers for transporting sand. He further submitted that the very same vehicle was involved in similar crime in Crime No.109 of 2018 before the Judicial Magistrate Court, Thuraiyur.

6. In any event, as the vehicle is under the custody of the respondents having been seized on 05.05.2019 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, 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.

7. 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) for the vehicle before the first respondent herein, as the offence is repeated;
- (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."

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

Sd/-

Assistant Registrar (CS-I)

// True Copy //

Sub Assistant Registrar (CS)

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To:

1.The Revenue Divisional Officer,
Office of the Revenue Divisional Office,
Musiri,
Trichy District.

2.The Assistant Director,
Department of Geology and Mining,
Trichy District.

3.The Inspector of Police,
Jambunathapuram Police Station,
Trichy District.

+1 CC to MR.A.UTHAYA KUMAR, Advocate (SR-104278[F] dated 10/12/2019)

W.P (MD) No.26202 of 2019

10.12.2019

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