

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED : 05.08.2020

CORAM

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE A. D. JAGADISH CHANDIRA

CrI.O.P.No.11658 of 2020

1. MAHENDRAN
2. SHANKAR

... Petitioners

Vs.

The State Represented by,
The Inspector of police,
Virudampet Police Station,
Vellore District.
(Crime No.842/2020)

...Respondent

Prayer: Criminal Original Petition filed under Section 438 Cr.P.C., to enlarge the petitioner on bail in the event of their arrest in Crime No. 842 of 2020 on the file of the Inspector of Police, Virudampet Police Station, Vellore District, pending investigation.

For Petitioners : Mr.G.Vinodh Kumar

For Respondent : Mr. M.Mohammed Riyaz
Additional Public Prosecutor

ORDER

(This case has been heard through video conference)

The petitioners, who apprehend arrest at the hands of the respondent police for the alleged offences punishable under Sections 379 and 430 of IPC r/w 21(1) of MM (D&R) Act, 1957, in Crime No. 842 of 2020 on the file of the respondent police, seek anticipatory bail.

2. The case of the prosecution as per the defacto complainant is that the petitioners had transported 15 bags each 25 kgs of sand through TATA Ace without obtaining proper license. Hence, the complaint.

3. The learned counsel appearing for the petitioners would submit that the petitioners are innocent persons and they have been falsely implicated in this case. On instruction, he would further submit that taking into consideration the present Covid pandemic situation the petitioners are prepared to donate/pay some considerable amount to any charitable organization or association without prejudice to their defence and prayed for grant of anticipatory bail.

4. The learned Additional Public Prosecutor submitted that the quantity of river sand involved is 15 bags each 25 kgs. He would further submit that there is no previous case. However, he opposed for the grant of anticipatory bail to the petitioners.

5. in order to curb the illegal sand mining activities and taking into consideration the voluntary submission made by the petitioners offering to donate/pay considerable amount to any charitable organization or association, this Court is of the opinion that the petitioners may be directed to donate/pay a sum of Rs.10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand only) jointly to "Tamil Nadu Advocate Clerk Association, High Court Madras, Indian Bank High Court Branch SB.A/c.No.484026006, IFSC Code No.IDIB000M157" without prejudice to thier rights and contentions before the trial Court.

6. Merely, because the petitioners deposits the said amount, it would not amount to admission of his guilt. Therefore, it is open to the trial Court to deal with the case independently.

7. Taking note of the facts and circumstances, this Court is inclined to grant anticipatory bail to the petitioners with certain conditions:

[a] The petitioners are directed to pay a sum of Rs.10,000/- jointly either through RTGS/NEFT or in cash in favour of "Tamil Nadu Advocate Clerk Association, High Court Madras, Indian Bank High Court Branch SB.A/c.No.484026006, IFSC Code No.IDIB000M157" within fifteen (15) days from the date of receipt of a copy of this order. Thereafter, the petitioners are directed to be released on bail in the event of their arrest or on their appearance and on production of proof of deposit of the above amount and on further condition that the petitioners shall execute a separate bond for a sum of Rs.10,000/- (Ten thousand only) with two sureties each for a like sum to the satisfaction of the police officer who intends to arrest, failing which the petition for anticipatory bail shall stands dismissed automatically and on further condition that the petitioners shall also give a letter of undertaking before the respondent/police that the said amount has been paid in respect of particular crime number.

[b] the petitioners and the sureties shall affix their photographs and Left Thumb Impression in the surety bond and the respondent/police may obtain a copy of their Aadhar card or Bank pass Book to ensure their identity.

[c] the petitioners shall report before the respondent police every Monday and Friday at 10.30 am until further orders.

[d] the petitioners shall not tamper with evidence or witness either during investigation or trial.

[e] the petitioners shall not abscond either during investigation or trial.

[f] On breach of any of the aforesaid conditions, the learned Magistrate/Trial Court is entitled to take appropriate action against the petitioners in accordance with law as if the conditions have been imposed and the petitioners are released on bail by the learned Magistrate/Trial Court himself as laid down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in P.K.Shaji vs. State of Kerala [(2005)AIR SCW 5560].

[g] If the accused thereafter absconds, a fresh FIR can be registered under Section 229A IPC.

8. With the above directions, this Criminal Original Petition is ordered.

9. For reporting compliance, post on 27.08.2020.

-sd/-

05/08/2020

This order, on being produced, be punctually observed and carried into execution by all concerned

TRUE COPY

Sub-Assistant Registrar (Statistics/C.S.)
High Court, Madras - 600 104.

TO

1 THE JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE,
NO.III, VELLORE.

2 THE PUBLIC PROSECUTOR
HIGH COURT, MADRAS.

3 INSPECTOR OF POLICE,
VIRUDAMPET POLICE STATION,
VELLORE DISTRICT.

4 TAMIL NADU ADVOCATE CLERK ASSOCIATION,
MADRAS HIGH COURT, CHENNAI (INDIAN BANK,
HIGH COURT BRANCH, A/C NO. 484026006,
IFSC CODE:IDIB000M157)

CC to M/S. G.VINODH KUMAR Advocate on payment of necessary charges

CRL OP.11658/2020

Date :05/08/2020

RVR 18/09/2020