

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED : 08.09.2020

CORAM

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE A.D.JAGADISH CHANDIRA

Cr1.O.P.No.13931 of 2020

Bharthi

... Petitioner/Accused

Vs.

The State represented by,
The Inspector of Police,
Kannamangalam Police Station,
Tiruvannamalai District.
(Crime No.1612 of 2020)

... Respondent/Complainant

Prayer: Criminal Original Petition filed under Section 438 Cr.P.C. to grant anticipatory bail to the petitioner in the event of arrest in Crime No. 1612 of 2020, by the respondent police.

For Petitioner : Mr.M.Mariappan

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

O R D E R

(The case has been heard through video conference)

The petitioner, who apprehends arrest at the hands of the respondent police for the alleged offences punishable under Sections 379, 430 of IPC read with Section 21(1) of Mines & Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, in Crime No.1612 of 2020, on the file of the respondent police, seeks anticipatory bail.

2 It is the case of the prosecution that the petitioner has transported one unit of river sand illegally by using Tractor without any valid licence. Hence, the complaint.

3 The learned counsel appearing for the petitioner would submit that the petitioner is an innocent person and he has been falsely implicated in this case. Hence, he prayed for grant of anticipatory bail to the petitioner.

4 The learned Additional Public Prosecutor submitted that the quantity of sand involved in this case is one unit. He would further submit that the petitioner without obtaining any permission from the Government had illegally dugged the land and transported sand, thereby degraded the environment and caused damages to the ecology. Hence, he vehemently opposed for the grant of anticipatory bail to the petitioner.

5 This court is of the opinion that the offenders despite several orders passed by various benches of this court regarding illegal sand mining and knowing fully well about the evil consequences affecting the environment and society at large and the implications thereon the accused are indulging in the offences of illegal quarrying/mining, theft and smuggling of sand and minerals. These cases come within the category of cases of large magnitude affecting and impacting livelihood of a very large number of people knowingly and unknowingly.

6 This Court finds that the discretionary power has been consciously and continuously misused by the offenders in an organised manner and this Court is of the firm opinion that the discretionary powers cannot be extended to persons indulging in illegal sand mining, smuggling and theft of sand and minerals.

7 In view of the order passed by this Court in CrI.O.P. No.13334 of 2020 etc. Batch, dated 03.09.2020, this Court is not inclined to grant anticipatory bail to the petitioner. Accordingly, this Criminal Original Petition stands dismissed.

-sd/-

08/09/2020

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,
ARANI

2 THE PUBLIC PROSECUTOR
HIGH COURT, MADRAS.

3 INSPECTOR OF POLICE,
KANNAMANGALAM POLICE STATION,
TIRUVANNAMALAI DISTRICT.

CC to M/S.M.MARIAPPAN Advocate on payment of necessary charges

CRL OP.13931/2020

Date :08/09/2020

RVR 24/09/2020