

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

Dated : 02.02.2021

CORAM :

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE V. BHARATHIDASAN

CrI.O.P.No.1404 of 2021

Elayaraja

... Petitioner

.vs.

The State by
The Inspector of Police,
Kottur Police Station,
Thiruvavur District
(Crime No.57 of 2020)

... Respondent

PRAYER: Criminal Original Petition is filed under Section 438 of Criminal Procedure Code to enlarge the petitioner on anticipatory bail in the event of his arrest in Crime No.57 of 2020 on the file of the Inspector of Police, Kottur Police Station, Thiruvavur District.

For Petitioner : Mr.Swamy Subramaniam

For Respondent : Mr.S.Karthikeyan
Addl. 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 IPC r/w.21(2) of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act in Crime No.1205 of 2020, on the file of the respondent police, seeks anticipatory bail.

2. The case of the prosecution is that the petitioner had transported ½ unit of river sand illegally by using his vehicle bearing Registration No.TN-50-AV-6910 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. On instruction, he would further submit that the petitioner is prepared to deposit some considerable amount to any charitable organization or association without prejudice to his contention and prayed for grant of anticipatory bail.

4. The learned Additional Public Prosecutor appearing for the respondent submitted that the petitioner had transported ½ unit of river sand in his vehicle without having valid permission. He further submitted that there is no previous case pending against the petitioner.

5. In order to curb the illegal sand mining activities, this Court is of the opinion that the petitioner is directed to deposit a sum of Rs.10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only) as non-refundable deposit to 'Madras High Court Advocate Clerks' Association, Indian Bank, High Court Branch, A/C.No.484077244, IFSC Code. No. IDIB000M157 without prejudice to his rights and contentions before the trial Court.

6. Merely, because the petitioners have deposited 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 petitioner with certain conditions.

[b] the petitioner 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.

(a) The petitioner is directed to deposit a sum of Rs.10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only) as non-refundable deposit either through RTGS/NEFT or in cash in favour of 'Madras High Court Advocate Clerks' Association, Indian Bank, High Court Branch, A/C.No.484077244, IFSC Code. No. IDIB000M157, and on such payment and production of proof of deposit of the above amount, they shall be released on bail in the event of arrest or on his appearance, within a period of fifteen days from the date on which the order copy made ready, before the learned Judicial Magistrate II, Mannargudi, Thiruvavur District, on condition that the petitioner shall execute a bond for a sum of Rs.10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only) with two sureties each for the like sum to the satisfaction of the police officer who intends to arrest, failing which the petition for anticipatory bail shall stand dismissed automatically and on further condition that:

[c] the petitioner shall report before the respondent police daily at 10.30 a.m., for a period of two weeks and thereafter, as and when required for the interrogation.

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

[e] the petitioner 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 petitioner in accordance with law as if the conditions have been imposed and the petitioner 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.

-sd/-
02/02/2021

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.II,
MANNARGUDI, THIRUVARUR DISTRICT.

2 THE CHIEF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE
THIRUVARUR [FOR INFORMATION]

3 THE PUBLIC PROSECUTOR
HIGH COURT, MADRAS.

4 THE INSPECTOR OF POLICE,
KORATTUR POLICE STATION,
TIRUVARUR DISTRICT.

5 THE MADRAS HIGH COURT ADVOCATE CLERKS
ASSOCIATION, INDIAN BANK, HIGH COURT BRANCH,
A/C.NO.484077244, IFSC CODE. NO. IDIB000M157

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

CRL OP.1404/2021

Date :02/02/2021