

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

(Criminal Jurisdiction)

Wednesday, the Seventh day of April Two Thousand Twenty One

PRESENT

The Hon`ble Mr Justice M.DHANDAPANI

CRIMINAL ORIGINAL PETITION No.6119 of 2021

K.JEGANATHAN

[PETITIONER / ACCUSED]

Vs

STATE REP BY

[RESPONDENT]

THE INSPECTOR OF POLICE,
MAHENDRA MANGALAM POLICE STATION,
DHARMAPURI DISTRICT
(CRIME NO.18 OF 2021)

For Petitioner : M/S.C.D.SUGUMAR Advocate

For Respondent : MR.K.PRABAKAR, ADDITIONAL PUBLIC PROSECUTOR

PETITION FOR ANTICIPATORY BAIL Under Sec. 438 Cr.P.C.

ORDER : The Court Made the following order :-

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 of IPC read with 21(1) and 21(4) of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, in Crime No.18 of 2021, 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 in his Tractor, without obtaining proper license. Hence, the complaint.

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

4. The learned Additional Public Prosecutor submitted that the petitioner without obtaining any permission from the Government, had illegally dug the land and transported sand, thereby degraded the environment and caused damages to ecology. Hence, he vehemently opposed for the grant of anticipatory bail to the petitioner.

5. This Court perused its careful consideration to the submissions advanced by the learned counsel on either side.

6. This Court is of the opinion that, despite several orders having been passed by various Benches of this Court regarding illegal sand mining and quarrying, knowing fully well about the evil consequences which affects the environment and society at large and the implications thereon, due to the above said illegal acts on the environment, persons are still reporting and indulging in illegal quarrying/mining of sand. Thereby causing great damage to the ecological balance of the environment. Cases of this nature is not only of large magnitude affecting environment, but it also leads to impacting the livelihood of the large number of people in the vicinity of the sand area.

7. This Court finds that the discretionary power of grant of anticipatory bail 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 such illegal sand mining, smuggling and theft of sand and minerals.

8. In view of the above position and also in view of the orders passed by this Court in Crl.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/-
07/04/2021

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 PUBLIC PROSECUTOR
HIGH COURT, MADRAS.

2 THE INSPECTOR OF POLICE,
MAHENDRA MANGALAM POLICE STATION,
DHARMAPURI DISTRICT.

+1CC to M/S.C.D.SUGUMAR Advocate on payment of necessary
charges SR NO.4547

CRL OP.6119/2021

Date :07/04/2021

MK:15/04/2021