



WEB COPY

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 06.08.2021

CORAM:

THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE M.DHANDAPANI

Crl.O.P.No.13881 of 2021

Thangaraj
S/o Manikkam

... Petitioner

Vs.

State rep by
The Inspector of Police,
Karimangalam Police Station,
Dharmapuri District.
(Crime No.372 of 2021)

... Respondent

PRAYER: Criminal Original Petition has been filed under Section 439 of Cr.P.C, prayed to enlarge the petitioner on bail in Crime No.372 of 2021 pending investigation on the file of the respondent police.

For Petitioner : Mr.S.G. Shankardevi

For Respondent : Mr.C.E. Pratap
Government Advocate (Crl side)

ORDER

The petitioner who was arrested on 10.07.2021 and remanded to judicial custody for the offences under Section 379 of I.P.C r/w Section 21(1) of Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act 1957, in Cr.No.372 of 2021 on the file of the respondent police, seeks bail.

2. The case of the prosecution is that the petitioner was found in illegal possession of one unit of river sand by using a Tractor, without any permission. Hence, the law enforcing agency registered a case against the petitioner.

3.The learned counsel appearing for the petitioner would submit that the petitioner has not committed any offence as alleged by the prosecution. However, on instructions, he would further submit that the petitioner, without prejudice to his rights, is ready to deposit a sum of Rs.50,000/- to the Mineral Foundation Trust.



4.The learned Government Advocate (Crl.Side) submitted that the vehicle involved was seized by the respondent police and that there is two previous cases pending against the petitioner. He further submitted that if the person is caught with illegal sand in the mining area, he has to be directed to deposit the conditional amount to the credit of Crime number. However, in view of formation of District Mineral Foundation Trust in each District, the amount may be deposited to the credit of the said Trust for rehabilitation in the areas affected by illegal sand mining.

5.In view of the rehabilitation undertaken by the State Government under the Tamil Nadu District Mineral Foundation Rules, 2017, and in order to curb the illegal sand mining activities and also considering the submission made by the learned counsel for the petitioner, this Court is of the opinion that the petitioner shall be directed to make a non refundable deposit of Rs.50,000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand only) to the credit of the concerned District Mineral Foundation Trust, without prejudice to his rights and contentions. The amount so deposited shall be utilised by the Trust for rehabilitation works.

6.It is made clear that the deposit of the amount by the petitioner to the Trust would not amount to admission of guilt. The trial Court shall deal with the case independently on merits without reference to the amount deposited at the stage of bail.

7.Considering the period of incarceration suffered by the petitioner, this Court is inclined to grant bail to the petitioner subject to the following conditions:

8. Accordingly, the petitioner is ordered to be released on bail on their executing a separate bond for a sum of Rs.10,000/-(Rupees Ten Thousand only) with two sureties, each for a like sum to the satisfaction of the learned Judicial Magistrate Court, Palakkodu and on further condition that:

(a) the petitioner shall deposit a sum of Rs.50,000/- (Rupees fifty Thousand only) through demand draft to the credit of the Chairman/District Collector, District Mineral Foundation Trust of the concerned District, without prejudice to their defence before the trial Court and the learned Judicial Magistrate, after perusing the challan/ receipt, shall accept the sureties furnished by the petitioner;

(b)the petitioner and the sureties shall affix their photographs and left thumb impression in the surety bond and the Magistrate may obtain a copy of their Aadhar card or Bank pass Book to ensure their identity;



(c)the petitioner shall report before the respondent police, daily at 10.30 a.m. until further orders;

(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]; and;

(g)if the accused thereafter absconds, a fresh FIR can be registered under Section 229-A IPC.

-sd/-
06/08/2021

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,
PALAKKODU.

2 THE CHIEF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE
DHARMAPURI [FOR INFORMATION].

3 THE INSPECTOR OF POLICE,
KARIMANGALAM POLICE STATION,
DHARMAPURI DISTRICT.

4 THE PUBLIC PROSECUTOR
HIGH COURT, MADRAS.



5 THE OFFICER INCHARGE
SUB-JAIL, DHARMAPURI DISTRICT.

6 THE CHAIRMAN/DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
DISTRICT MINERAL FOUNDATION TRUST,
DHARMAPURI DISTRICT.

+1 CC to MR.S.G. SHANKARDEVI, Advocate on payment of necessary
charges S.R. NO.8243

CRL OP.13881/2021

Date :06/08/2021

JPA 06/08/2021