



BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED : 16.06.2021

CORAM:

THE HONOURABLE MRS. JUSTICE J.NISHA BANU

W.P. (MD)No.4956 of 2021

WEB COPY

Ragavan

... Petitioner

Vs.

1.The Superintendent of Police,
Madurai District,
Madurai.

2.The Deputy Superintendent of Police,
PEW - Madurai District,
Madurai.

3.The Inspector of Police,
PEW - Thirumangalam Police Station,
Thirumangalam,
Madurai District.
(Crime No.135 of 2020)

... Respondents

PRAYER: Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, to issue a Writ of Mandamus, directing the third respondent to release the petitioner's TVS TATA INDICO Car bearing Registration No.PY 02 Q 1074 seized on 12.02.2020 keeping under the custody of the third respondent by considering the petitioner's representation dated 20.02.2021.

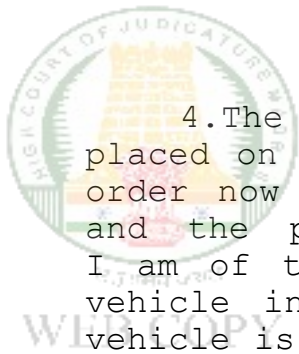
For Petitioner : Mr.T.Vadivelan
For Respondents : Mr.P.Thilak Kumar,
Standing Counsel
for Government

O R D E R

This Writ Petition has been filed for a direction to the respondents to release the Petitioner's vehicle ie., TVS TATA INDICO Car bearing Registration No.PY 02 Q 1074.

2. Heard the learned counsel for both sides.

3. The petitioner's vehicle was seized in connection with illegal transportation of liquor bottles. The enquiry in this regard is still pending. The learned counsel for the petitioner affirms before this Court that the petitioner's vehicle was not involved in any previous incident of illegal transportation of liquor bottles.



4.The submission of the learned counsel for the petitioner is placed on record. If this submission turns out to be false, the order now passed by this Court would stand automatically recalled and the petitioner will be visited with serious consequences. I am of the view that no purpose will be served by keeping the vehicle in question in the custody of the respondents. If the vehicle is kept in open space and exposed to sun light and rain, it would lose its value. Therefore, the respondents are directed to release the said vehicle subject to the following conditions.

5 Accordingly, this Writ Petition is disposed of with the following directions.

"(i)The petitioner is directed to deposit a sum of Rs.25,000/-(Rupees Twenty Five Thousand Only) to the credit of Government of Tamil Nadu, CMPRF in IOB, Secretariat Branch, Chennai-9 (Account No.11720 10000 00070, IFSCCode: IOBA0001172), without prejudice to his rights and contentions;

(ii)The petitioner is directed to produce all the documents pertaining to the ownership of the seized vehicle.

(iii)The petitioner is directed to file an affidavit of undertaking that he will cause production of the vehicle in question before the competent/concerned respondent (as the case may be) as and when called for and further, he will not alienate the vehicle in question till the appropriate proceedings initiated are completed;

(iv) On compliance of the above conditions, the third respondent is directed to release the seized vehicle TVS TATA INDICO Car bearing Registration No.PY 02 Q 1074 to the petitioner.

(v)The first respondent is directed to pass final orders in the adjudication proceedings, if any, within a period of 45 days;

(vi)This order for the release of the vehicle can be pressed into service by the petitioner only if the vehicle is not in the custody of the criminal Court. If the vehicle is in the custody of the concerned criminal Court of appropriate jurisdiction, then option is given to the petitioner to approach the concerned Judicial Magistrate to get release of the vehicle, by filing necessary application in the manner known to law and in accordance with law; and

(vii)Inasmuch as the vehicle TVS TATA INDICO Car bearing Registration No.PY 02 Q 1074 seized by the



third respondent on 12.02.2020 is concerned, the aforesaid order is to be complied with within a period of one week, if no order of adjudication is passed as on today.

No costs.

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Sd/-

Assistant Registrar (CS II)

// True Copy //

/ /2021

Sub Assistant Registrar(CS)

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To

- 1.The Superintendent of Police,
Madurai District,
Madurai.
- 2.The Deputy Superintendent of Police,
PEW - Madurai District,
Madurai.
- 3.The Inspector of Police,
PEW - Thirumangalam Police Station,
Thirumangalam,
Madurai District.

Copy to
The Officer in charge,
Chief Minister's Relief fund,
Secretariat, Chennai-9

+1 CC to M/s.SPL GP (SR-19538[F] dated 17/06/2021)

W.P.(MD)No. 4956 of 2021
16.06.2021

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KK(23.06.2021) 3P 6C