



WEB COPY

BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

(Criminal Jurisdiction)

Date : 02/07/2021

PRESENT

The Hon'ble Mr. Justice G.CHANDRASEKHARAN

CRL OP(MD). No.8714 of 2021

Thiyagarajan

... Petitioner/Accused No.1

Vs

The State Rep. by
The Inspector of Police,
Thiruneelakudi Police Station,
Crime No. 415/2021
Thanjavur District.

... Respondent/Complainant

For Petitioner : Mr.Susi Kumar.C., Advocate.

For Respondent : Mr.M.Muthumanikkam,
Government Advocate (Crl.Side)

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

PRAYER :- For Anticipatory Bail in Crime No.415 Of 2021 on the file of the respondent Police.

ORDER : The Court made the following order :-

The petitioner/A1, who apprehends arrest at the hands of the respondent police for the alleged offences punishable under Section 379 of IPC and Section 21(1) of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation Act), 1957 in Crime No.415 of 2021, seeks anticipatory bail.

2.The case of the prosecution is that on 03.06.2021 when the respondent police was engaged in vehicle search near Keerthimanaru Bridge, they saw a tractor bearing Reg. No. TN 68 8787. The police party stopped the vehicle. On seeing the police the occupants in the tractor escaped and on search the respondent police one unit of river sand in the tipper, therefore this case came to be registered.

3.The learned counsel for the petitioner would submit that the petitioner is innocent and he did not commit any offence as alleged by the prosecution. He would also submit that no previous case is pending against the petitioner.

4.The learned Government Advocate(Crl.Side) appearing for the respondent police strongly opposed this petition on the ground that the vehicle and sand were seized on the spot and on seeing the



search party headed by defacto complainant, the petitioner and other occupants escaped from the scene of crime.

5. It is seen that illegal and indiscriminate sand mining has become a threat to the worldwide environment. It leads to changes in river channel form, physical habitats and food webs. It also increases the velocity of flow in river which destroy flow-regime eventually erodes the river banks. Removal of vegetation and destruction of the soil profile destroys habitat above and below the ground and faunal population decrease. Not only that, sand mining causes sinking of water tables in the nearby areas and as a result, ground water table drops leaving the drinking water wells on the embankments of these rivers dry.

6. This offence of illegal mining is not only an offence against any particular individual, but against the Society at large. It affects not only the present population, but the posterity as well. In this view of the matter, this Court is not inclined to grant anticipatory bail to the petitioner. Accordingly, this Criminal Original Petition is dismissed.

sd/-
02/07/2021

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/ /2021
Sub-Assistant Registrar (C.S.)
Madurai Bench of Madras High Court,
Madurai - 625 023.

Note : In view of the present lock down owing to COVID-19 pandemic, a web copy of the order may be utilized for official purposes, but, ensuring that the copy of the order that is presented is the correct copy, shall be the responsibility of the advocate/litigant concerned.

TO

1. THE INSPECTOR OF POLICE,
THIRUNEELAKUDI POLICE STATION,
THANJAVUR DISTRICT.
2. THE ADDITIONAL PUBLIC PROSECUTOR,
MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT,
MADURAI.

ORDER
IN
CRL OP(MD) No.8714 of 2021
Date : 02/07/2021