



BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT
(Criminal Jurisdiction)

Date : 03/08/2021
PRESENT

WEB COPY

The Hon`ble Mr.Justice B.PUGALENDHI

CRL OP(MD)No.9971 of 2021

Ashok Kumar

... Petitioner/Accused No.3

Vs

The State rep.by
The Inspector of Police,
Thottiyam Police Station,
Thottiyam,
Trichy District.
Crime No. 191 of 2021.

... Respondent/Complainant

For Petitioner : Mr.K.ARUNRAJ, Advocate.

For Respondent : Mr.T.SENTHILKUMAR,
Government Advocate (Crl.Side)

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

PRAYER :-

For Anticipatory Bail in Crime No.191 of 2021 on the file of the Respondent Police.

ORDER : The Court made the following order :-

The petitioner, who apprehends arrest at the hands of the respondent police for the alleged offences punishable under Section 379 IPC r/w Section 21(1) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, in Crime No.191 of 2021, seeks anticipatory bail.

2.The case of the prosecution is that on 30.05.2021, the respondent police involved in regular vehicle check up. At that time, they found that the other accused in this case illegally transported ½ unit of river sand by using petitioner's Bolero Pick Up vehicle. Therefore, the present case came to be registered.

3.The learned counsel for the petitioner submitted that the petitioner is an innocent person and he is the owner of the vehicle. He further submitted that the petitioner was not present in the place of occurrence and to show his bonofide, he is prepared to deposit some amount to the Chief Minister's Public relief fund.



4. Heard the learned counsel for the petitioner and the learned Government Advocate (Crl. side) appearing for the respondent police.

5. Considering the facts and circumstances of the case and the fact that the petitioner is the owner of the vehicle and he was not present in the place of occurrence, this Court is inclined to grant anticipatory bail to the petitioner on condition that the petitioner shall pay a sum of Rs.15,000/- (Rupees Fifteen Thousand Only) to the credit of Government of Tamil Nadu, CMPRF in IOB, Secretariat Branch, Chennai-9 (Account No.11720 10000 00070, IFSC Code: IOBA0001172), without prejudice to his rights and contentions before the trial Court and produce the receipt/acknowledgment before the learned Judicial Magistrate Court, Musiri.

6. On depositing the above said amount, the petitioner is ordered to be released on bail in the event of arrest or on his appearance, within a period of fifteen days from the date of receipt of a copy of this order, before the learned Judicial Magistrate Court, Musiri, 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 a like sum to the satisfaction of the learned Magistrate concerned and on further conditions that:

[a] 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.

[b] the petitioner shall report before respondent police daily at 10.30 am., until further orders.

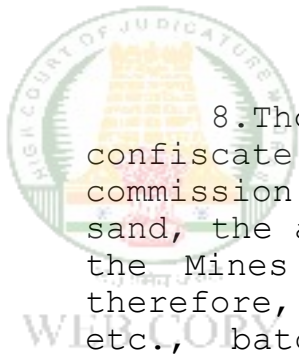
[c] the petitioner shall not tamper with evidence or witness either during investigation or trial.

[d] the petitioner shall not abscond either during investigation or trial.

[e] 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]**.

[f] If the accused thereafter abscond, a fresh FIR can be registered under Section 229-A IPC.

7. It is needless to say that any tool or instrument or vehicle used for illegal quarrying/ transportation of sand is liable to be seized under Section 21(4) of the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 and any vehicle or instrument or tool which has been seized under Section 21 (4) of the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957, is liable to be confiscated under Section 21(4-A) of the Act.



8. Though the above provision mandates the authorities to confiscate the tool or instrument or vehicle involved in the commission of the offence of illegal quarrying / transportation of sand, the authorities, have not invoked the provision of 21 (4-A) of the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 and therefore, a Division Bench of this Court in W.P.No.19936 of 2016, etc., batch has emphasised the need for confiscation of the vehicles. Consequently, the Government has also issued certain directions to the authorities of Revenue, Police and Forest and Geology and Mining departments to seize the vehicles and for confiscation of the same in G.O.Ms.No.170, Industries MMC-II Department, dated 05.08.2020. Therefore, the respondent police is directed to proceed further as per Section 21 (4-A) of the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 and as per the guidelines issued in G.O.Ms.No.170, Industries MMC-II Department, dated 05.08.2020.

sd/-
03/08/2021

/ TRUE COPY /

/ /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 JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE, MUSIRI.
2. DO THROUGH THE CHIEF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE,
TIRUCHIRAPPALLI DISTRICT.
3. THE INSPECTOR OF POLICE,
THOTTIYAM POLICE STATION, THOTTIYAM,
TRICHY DISTRICT.
4. THE ADDITIONAL PUBLIC PROSECUTOR,
MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT,
MADURAI DISTRICT.

COPY TO:

THE OFFICER INCHARGE,
GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU,
CHIEF MINISTER PUBLIC RELIEF FUND IN IOB,
SECRETARIAT BRANCH, CHENNAI-9.

ORDER IN

CRL OP(MD) No.9971 of 2021
Date : 03/08/2021

SA/JC/SAR.3/09.08.2021/3P/6C

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