



BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

(Criminal Jurisdiction)

Date : 04/08/2021

WEB COPY

PRESENT

The Hon`ble Mr.Justice B.PUGALENDHI

CRL OP(MD)No.10398 of 2021

1. Arivazhagan

2. Kadierazhan

3. Alexander

4. Anbalagan

... Petitioners/Accused No.1,2,6&7

Vs

State Rep by
The Inspector of Police,
Budalur Police Station,
Thanjavur District.

(Crime No.368 of 2021). ... Respondent/Complainant

For Petitioner : Mr.Sathya Chidambaram S,
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. 368 of 2021 on the file of the Respondent police.

ORDER : The Court made the following order :-

The petitioners, who apprehend arrest at the hands of the respondent police for the alleged offences punishable under Section 379 IPC and Section 21(1) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 in Crime No.368 of 2021, seek anticipatory bail.

2.The case of the prosecution is that the petitioners have illegally transported sand by using three lorries bearing registration Nos.TN 49 BA 4298, TN 49 BA 4578 and TN 29 T 7777 respectively. Therefore, the present case came to be registered.



3.The learned counsel for the petitioners submitted that the petitioners have obtained prior permission from the Assistant Director, Geology and Mining, Thanjavur in Na.Ka.No.181/Mines/2021, dated 22.06.2021 for transporting sand for construction purpose. However, without considering the same, the respondent police has registered this false case as against the petitioners. He further submitted that accused Nos.3, 4, and 5 were already arrested and released on bail.

4.The learned Government Advocate(Crl.side) appearing for the respondent police submitted that three vehicles have been involved in this occurrence and one unit each was found in the lorries and the petitioners 1 & 2 are the owners of the land and the petitioners 3 & 4 are the owners of the vehicles. He further submitted that the petitioners have no bad antecedents.

5.Considering the nature of offence and the fact that the petitioners have not indulged in any other offences, this Court is inclined to grant anticipatory bail to the petitioners. Accordingly, this criminal original petition is allowed on condition that petitioners shall pay a sum of Rs.15,000/- (Rupees Fifteen Thousand only)each 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, Thiruvaiyaru, Thanjavur District.

6.On production of such receipt/acknowledgmet, the petitioners are ordered to be released on bail in the event of arrest or on their appearance, within a period of fifteen days from the date of receipt of a copy of this order, before the learned Judicial Magistrate, Thiruvaiyaru, Thanjavur District, on condition that the petitioners 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 Aadhaar card or bank pass book to ensure their identity.

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

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



[d]the petitioners 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 petitioners in accordance with law as if the conditions have been imposed and the petitioners 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/-

04/08/2021

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/ /2021

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

GNS

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.

<https://hcservices.ecourts.gov.in/hcservices/>



TO

1 THE JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE,
THIRUVAIYARU
THANJAVUR DISTRICT

2 DO THROUGH
THE CHIEF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE
THANJAVUR AT KUMBAKONAM

3 THE INSPECTOR OF POLICE
BUDALUR POLICE STATION,
THANJAVUR DISTRICT.

4 THE ADDITIONAL PUBLIC PROSECUTOR
MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT, MADURAI.

COPY TO

THE OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
GOVT.OF TAMIL NADU
CHIEF MINISTER PUBLIC RELIEF FUND in IOB
SECRETARIAT BRANCH
CHENNAI-9

ORDER
IN
CRL OP(MD) No.10398 of 2021
Date :04/08/2021

PKP/PN/SAR-3/18/08/2021/4P/6C