



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

Date : 17/09/2021

PRESENT

The Hon`ble Mr.Justice B.PUGALENDHI

CRL OP(MD) . No.13739 of 2021

1. Arivalagan

2. Murugan @ Vikram ... Petitioners/Accused No.1 to 2

Vs

The state represented by
The Inspector of Police,
Pattukottai Taluk Police Station,
Thanjavur District.
Crime no.538 of 2021 ... Respondent/Complainant

For Petitioner : Mr.Karunakaran.K.M.,
Advocate.

For Respondent : Mr.P.Kottai Chamy,
Government Advocate (Crl.Side)

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

PRAYER :-

For Anticipatory Bail in Crime No. 538 of 2021 on the file
of the respondent Police.

ORDER : The Court made the following order :-

The petitioners/A1 and A2, who apprehend arrest at the hands of
the respondent police for the alleged offence punishable under
Sections 379 IPC r/w. 21(1) Mines and Minerals (Development and
Regulation) Act, in Crime No.538 of 2021, seek anticipatory bail.

2.The case of the prosecution is that the petitioners have
illegally transported ½ unit of river sand in a Mahindra Bolero Maxi
Truck.

3.The learned counsel for the petitioners submitted that the
petitioners are innocents and they have been falsely implicated in
this case. However, to show their bona fide, they are prepared to
pay a sum of Rs.7,500/- to the Chief Minister's Public Relief Fund.



4.The learned Government Advocate(Crl.side) appearing for the respondent police submitted that the investigation is yet to be completed. He further submitted that the petitioners are not having any previous case.

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5. Considering the nature of mineral involved, the antecedent of the petitioners and his willingness to pay a sum of Rs.7,500/- to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund, this Court is inclined to grant anticipatory bail to the petitioners. Accordingly, this Criminal Original Petition is allowed on condition that the petitioners shall pay a sum of Rs.7,500/-(Rupees Seven Thousand Five Hundred 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 their rights and contentions before the trial Court and produce the receipt/acknowledgment before the learned Judicial Magistrate, Pattukottai.

6.On production of such receipt/acknowledgement, 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, Pattukottai, on condition that the petitioners shall execute a bond for a sum of Rs.25,000/- (Rupees Twenty Five Thousand only) each, with two sureties each for a like sum to the satisfaction of the learned Magistrate concerned and on further conditions that:

[a]the petitioners 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 are 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 and any vehicle or instrument or tool which has



been seized under Section 21 (4) of the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act is liable to be confiscated under Section 21(4-A) of the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) 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-2 Department, dated 05.08.2020 and therefore, the respondent police is directed to proceed further as per Section 21 (4-A) of the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act and as per the guide lines issued in G.O.Ms.No.170, Industries MMC-2 Department, dated 05.08.2020.

sd/-

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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,
PATTUKOTTAI.
- 2 DO-THROUGH :
THE CHIEF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE,
THANJORE DISTRICT AT KUMBAKONAM.
- 3 THE INSPECTOR OF POLICE
PATTUKOTTAI TALUK POLICE STATION,
THANJAVUR DISTRICT.
- 4 THE ADDITIONAL PUBLIC PROSECUTOR,
MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT, MADURAI.



COPY TO:

THE OFFICER INCHARGE,
GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU,
CHIEF MINISTER PUBLIC RELIEF FUND,
SECRETARIAT, CHENNAI 09.

ORDER

IN

CRL OP(MD) No.13739 of 2021

Date :17/09/2021

OGY

SS/JM/SAR-II/24.09.2021 : 4P/6C