



IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

(Criminal Jurisdiction)

Wednesday, the First day of June Two Thousand Twenty Two

PRESENT

The Hon`ble Mr Justice B.PUGALENDHI

CRIMINAL ORIGINAL PETITION No.12940 of 2022

VENKATESAN

[PETITIONER / ACCUSED]

Vs

STATE REP.BY

[RESPONDENT]

THE INSPECTOR OF POLICE
PALACODE POLICE STATION,
DHARMAPURI DISTRICT.
CR.NO.205 OF 2022.

For Petitioner : M/S.D.RAMESH KUMAR Advocate

For Respondent : M/S.N.MUTHUVEL, Govt. Advocate (Crl. Side)

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

ORDER : The Court Made the following order :-

The petitioner/Accused, who apprehends arrest at the hands of the respondent police for the alleged offence punishable under Section 379 IPC r/w. 21(4) of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, in Crime No.205 of 2022, seeks anticipatory bail.

2.The case of the prosecution is that the petitioner has illegally transported gravel sand in a Tractor bearing Registration No.TN-29-BR-4185.

3.The learned counsel for the petitioner submitted that the petitioner is an innocent person and he has been falsely implicated in this case.

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 petitioner petitioner is not having any bad antecedent.



5. Considering the nature of mineral involved, the antecedent of the petitioner, this Court is inclined to grant anticipatory bail to the petitioner. Accordingly, this Criminal Original Petition is allowed and 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, Palacode, Dharmapuri District, on condition that the petitioner shall execute a bond for a sum of Rs.25,000/- (Rupees Twenty Five 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 petitioner shall report before respondent police daily at 10.30 am., until further orders.

[c]the petitioner shall not tamper with the 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 absconds, 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/-
01/06/2022

This order, on being produced, be punctually observed and carried into execution by all concerned

TRUE COPY

Sub-Assistant Registrar (Statistics/C.S.)
High Court, Madras - 600 104.

TO

1 THE JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE,
PALACODE, DHARMAPURI DISTRICT.

2 THE CHIEF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE
DHARMAPURI. [FOR INFORMATION]

3 THE PUBLIC PROSECUTOR
HIGH COURT, MADRAS.

4 THE INSPECTOR OF POLICE
PALACODE POLICE STATION,
DHARMAPURI DISTRICT.

+1 CC to M/S.D.RAMESH KUMAR Advocate on payment of necessary charges SR.NO.8299

CRL OP.12940/2022

Date :01/06/2022

TA-03/06/2022