

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

(Criminal Jurisdiction)

Tuesday, the Fifth day of July Two Thousand Twenty Two

PRESENT

The Hon`ble Mr Justice G.K. ILANTHIRAIYAN

CRIMINAL ORIGINAL PETITION No.14968 of 2022

RANJITHKUMAR

[PETITIONER / ACCUSED]

Vs

STATE REP. BY
THE INSPECTOR OF POLICE
VIRUTHAMPET POLICE STATION,
VIRUTHAMPET,
VELLORE DISTRICT.
CRIME NO.175 OF 2020

[RESPONDENT]

For Petitioner : M/S. S.PAULGNANAMUTHU Advocate

For Respondent : M/S.V.J.PRIYADARSANA, Govt. Advocate (Crl. Side)

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

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 Sections 379 and 430 IPC r/w 21(1) of Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act in Cr.No.175 of 2020, on the file of the respondent police, seeks anticipatory bail.

2.It is the case of the prosecution that the petitioner is alleged to have transported 1/4 unit of river sand illegally.

3. The learned counsel appearing for the petitioner would submit that the petitioner is an innocent person and he has not committed any offence as alleged by the prosecution. He further submits that the petitioner has already been granted anticipatory bail by this Court in Crl.O.P.No.9127 of 2021 dated 13.05.2021. However, due to Covid-19 pandemic situation, the petitioner could not able to comply the earlier order passed by this Court. Therefore, he prays to grant anticipatory bail to the petitioner.

4.The learned Government Advocate (Crl.side) appearing for the respondent submitted that the quantity of river sand involved is 1/4 unit. He further submitted that there is no previous case pending against the petitioner. However, he vehemently opposed to grant anticipatory bail to the petitioner.

5.In view of the rehabilitation undertaken under the Tamil Nadu District Mineral Foundation Rules, 2017, and in order to curb the illegal sand mining activities, this Court is of the opinion that the petitioner is directed to deposit a sum of Rs.5,000/- (Rupees Five Thousand only) as non refundable deposit to the credit of the concerned District Mineral Foundation Trust, without prejudice to his rights and contentions before the trial Court.

6.Merely, because the petitioner has deposited the said amount, it would not amount to admission of his guilt. Therefore, it is open to the trial Court to deal with the case independently.

7.Taking note of the facts and circumstances, this Court is inclined to grant anticipatory bail to the petitioner with certain conditions.

8. Accordingly, the petitioner is directed to deposit a sum of Rs.5,000/- (Rupees Five Thousand only) as non refundable deposit to the credit of the concerned District Mineral Foundation Trust and on such deposit 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 on which the order copy made ready, before the Judicial Magistrate Court - III, Vellore 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 respondent police or the police officer who intends to arrest or to the satisfaction of the learned Magistrate concerned, failing which, the petition for anticipatory bail shall stand dismissed and on further condition 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 deposit a sum of Rs.5,000/- (Rupees Five Thousand only) as non refundable deposit to the credit of the concerned District Mineral Foundation Trust.

[c] the petitioner shall report before the respondent police daily at 10.30 a.m for a period of two weeks and thereafter as and when required for interrogation.

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

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

[f] 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].

[g] If the accused thereafter absconds, a fresh FIR can be registered under Section 229A IPC.

-sd/-

05/07/2022

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,
NO.III, VELLORE

2 THE CHIEF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE
VELLORE [FOR INFORMATION]

3 THE INSPECTOR OF POLICE
VIRUTHAMPET POLICE STATION,
VIRUTHAMPET,
VELLORE DISTRICT.

4 THE PUBLIC PROSECUTOR
HIGH COURT, MADRAS.

5 THE OFFICER INCHARGE
DISTRICT MINERAL FOUNDATION TRUST, VELLORE
DISTRICT

+1 CC to M/S. S.PAULGNANAMUTHU Advocate on payment of necessary charges SR.NO.10793

CRL OP.14968/2022

Date :05/07/2022

JPA 11/07/2022