



WEB COPY

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 14.03.2022

Coram

The Honourable Mr. Justice P.N.PRAKASH  
and  
The Honourable Mr. Justice A.A.NAKKIRAN

H.C.P.No.1558 of 2021

Adhilakshmi

.. Petitioner

Vs.

1. State of Tamil Nadu represented by  
The Secretary to Government,  
Department of Home, Prohibition and Excise,  
Secretariat, Fort St.George,  
Chennai.
2. The Commissioner of Police,  
Greater Chennai,  
Office of the Commissioner of Police,  
Vepery, Chennai-7.
3. The Superintendent of Police,  
Central Prison, Puzhal-II,  
Puzhal, Chennai.
4. The Inspector of Police,  
H-1, Washermenpet Police Station,  
Chennai.

.. Respondents

Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India to issue a writ of Habeas Corpus calling for the records in Memo No.249/BCDFGISSSV/2021 passed by the 2<sup>nd</sup> respondent on 31.08.2021 on the file of the 2<sup>nd</sup> respondent and quash the same as illegal and consequently direct the respondents to produce the petitioner's husband Ashok, son of Chellappan, aged about 40 years, before this Court, who is now detained in the Central Prison, Puzhal-II and set him at liberty.

For Petitioner : Mr.A.Elumalai

For Respondents : Mr.M.Babu Muthumeeran,  
Addl. Public Prosecutor



ORDER  
[Made by P.N.PRAKASH, J.]

The petitioner is the wife of the detenu Ashok, son of Chellappan, aged about 40 years. The detenu has been detained by the second respondent by his order in No.249/BCDFGISSSV/2021 dated 31.08.2021, holding him to be a "Drug Offender", as contemplated under Section 2(e) of Tamil Nadu Act 14 of 1982. The said order is under challenge in this Habeas Corpus Petition.

2. We have heard the learned counsel appearing for the petitioner and the learned Additional Public Prosecutor appearing for the respondents. We have also perused the records produced by the Detaining Authority.

3. Though the learned counsel for the petitioner has raised several other grounds to assail the order of detention, he has mainly focused his argument on the ground that the remand order has not been properly translated in vernacular language. He further submitted that the detaining authority, while detaining the detenu, has not furnished the legible copies of the documents relied on by him. This deprived the detenu from making effective representation. Therefore, on these grounds, the detention order is liable to be quashed.

4. The learned Additional Public Prosecutor strongly opposed the habeas corpus petition by filing his counter.

5. On consideration of the submissions made on either side and upon perusal of the documents available on record especially Page Nos.174 & 175 of the booklet, it is clear that the remand order has not been properly translated in vernacular language. Thus the impugned detention order is liable to be set aside on this ground.

In the result, the Habeas Corpus Petition is allowed and the order of detention in No.249/BCDFGISSSV/2021 dated 31.08.2021, passed by the second respondent is set aside. The detenu, viz., Ashok, son of Chellappan, aged about 40 years, is directed to be released forthwith unless his detention is required in connection with any other case.

Sd/-  
Assistant Registrar(CO)

//True Copy//

Sub Assistant Registrar

nsd



To

1. The Secretary to Government,  
Department of Home, Prohibition and Excise,  
Secretariat, Fort St.George,  
Chennai.
2. The Commissioner of Police,  
Greater Chennai,  
Office of the Commissioner of Police,  
Vepery, Chennai-7.
3. The Superintendent of Police,  
Central Prison, Puzhal-II,  
Puzhal, Chennai.
4. The Inspector of Police,  
H-1, Washermenpet Police Station,  
Chennai.
5. The Joint Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu,  
Public, Law and Order Department,  
Secretariat, Chennai - 9.
6. The Public Prosecutor,  
High Court, Madras.

H.C.P.No.1558 of 2021

SPD(CO)  
CT 18/03/2022