



Crl.O.P.No.25499 of 2022

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED : 20.10.2022

CORAM

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE **A.D.JAGADISH CHANDIRA**

Crl.O.P.No.25499 of 2022

Moorthi

... Petitioner

Vs.

The State represented by,
The Sub-Inspector of Police,
Steel Plant Police Station,
Salem City,
Salem District.
(Crime No.172/2022).

... Respondent

PRAYER: Criminal Original Petitions filed under Section 439 of Cr.P.C.,
pleased to enlarge the petitioner on bail in connection with the Crime No.172
of 2022 pending investigation on the file of the respondent Police.

For Petitioner : Mr.K.Nagendra Prasad

For Respondent : Mr.C.E.Pratap
Government Advocate (Crl.Side)



CrI.O.P.No.25499 of 2022

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ORDER

The petitioner, who was arrested and remanded to judicial custody on 18.09.2022 for the offences punishable under Sections 273 and 328 IPC r/w Section 6(b), 24(1) of COTPA Act, 2003 and Sections 57 and 59 of Food and Safety Standard Act, 2006, in Crime No.172 of 2022 on the file of the respondent police, seeks bail.

2. The case of the prosecution is that while the respondent Police and his team were on routine rounds, they found that the petitioner was in illegal possession of 355 grams of banned tobacco products, worth about Rs.1000/-. Hence the complaint.

3. The learned counsel appearing for the petitioner would submit that the petitioner is an innocent person and he has been falsely implicated in this case. He would also submit that without prejudice, the petitioner is prepared to make a deposit the considerable amount as non-refundable deposit to any welfare scheme of the Government and hence, he prays for grant of bail to the petitioner.



Crl.O.P.No.25499 of 2022

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4. The Government Advocate (Crl.Side) appearing for the respondent police would submit that the petitioner was found in illegal possession of 355 grams of banned tobacco products, worth about Rs.1000/-. He would further submit that there is no previous case as against the petitioner. However, he opposed to grant bail to the petitioner.

5. Heard the learned counsel for the petitioner and the learned Government Advocate (Crl.Side) and perused the materials available on record.

6. In order to curb the illegal activities of smuggling of tobacco products, this Court is of the opinion that the petitioner shall deposit a sum of Rs.5,000/- (Rupees Five Thousand only) as a non refundable deposit to "**The Dean/Medical Officer, Government Mohan Kumaramangalam Medical College Hospital, Salem**", without prejudice to his rights and contentions before the trial Court.



Crl.O.P.No.25499 of 2022

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7. 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.

8. Taking into consideration the facts of the case and the submissions made by the learned counsel and also taking note of the fact that the petitioner is prepared to deposit Rs.5,000/- to any welfare scheme of the Government, this Court is inclined to grant bail to the petitioner with certain conditions.

9. Accordingly, the petitioner is ordered to be released on bail on condition to make a non refundable deposit of **Rs.5,000/- (Rupees Five Thousand only)** by way of **Demand Draft/RTGS/NEFT** to the "**The Dean/Medical Officer, Government Mohan Kumaramangalam Medical College Hospital, Salem**", without prejudice to his rights and contentions before the trial Court, on such deposit and production of proof, the petitioner is ordered to be released on bail on his executing 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 Judicial Magistrate-I,**



CrI.O.P.No.25499 of 2022

Salem, and on further conditions that:

[a] 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 report before the respondent Police daily at 10.30 a.m., until further orders;

[c] the petitioner shall not abscond either during investigation or trial;

[d] the petitioner shall not tamper with evidence or witness 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 abscond, a fresh FIR can be registered under Section 229A IPC.

20.10.2022

Anu



CrI.O.P.No.25499 of 2022

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To

1. The Judicial Magistrate-I,
Salem.
2. The Sub-Inspector of Police,
Steel Plant Police Station,
Salem City,
Salem District.
3. The Central Prison.
Salem.
4. The Public Prosecutor,
High Court of Madras.



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Crl.O.P.No.25499 of 2022

A.D.JAGADISH CHANDIRA.,J.

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Crl.O.P.No.25499 of 2022

20.10.2022