

Crl.O.P.No.28789 of 2022

T.V.THAMILSELVI, J.

The petitioners, who apprehend arrest for the alleged offence under Sections 9 and 10 of Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 in Cr.No.48 of 2022 on the file of the respondent police, seek anticipatory bail.

2.The case of the prosecution is that the petitioners 2, 3 and 4 attempted to perform child marriage to the minor girl one Devadharshini, who aged about 17 years. Therefore, the defacto complainant/Social Welfare Officer lodged a compliant before the respondent police.

3.The learned counsel appearing for the petitioners would submit that the petitioners have not been committed any offence as alleged by the prosecution. He would further submit that the petitioners were not aware of the consequences and rigours of the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, they performed the marriage. Hence, the learned counsel prays to grant anticipatory bail to the petitioners.



4.The learned Government Advocate (Crl.side) would submit that the petitioners are alleged to have performed child marriage to the victim girl, who aged about 17 years. Hence, he vehemently opposed to grant anticipatory bail to the petitioners.

5. Considering the facts and circumstances of the case, this Court is inclined to grant anticipatory bail to the petitioners.

6.Accordingly, 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 No.II, Panrutti**, on condition that the petitioners shall execute a bond for a sum of **Rs.10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only) each**, 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 and on further condition that:

(a)the petitioners and the sureties shall affix their photographs and left thumb impression in the surety bond and the Court concerned may obtain a copy of their Aadhar card or Bank pass Book to ensure their identity;



(b)the petitioners shall report before the respondent police as and when required for interrogation;

(c)the petitioners shall not tamper with 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 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]***; and;

(f)if the accused thereafter absconds, a fresh FIR can be registered under Section 229-A IPC.

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