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CrI.O.P.No.29451 of 2022

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED : 30.11.2022

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

CrI.O.P.No.29451 of 2022

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... Petitioner

Vs.

The State represented by,
The Inspector of Police,
V1 Villivakkam Police Station.
Chennai.

(Crime No.344/2022).

... 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.344
of 2022 pending investigation on the file of the respondent Police.

For Petitioner : Mr.N.Naresh

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



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ORDER

The petitioner, who was arrested and remanded to judicial custody on 09.11.2022 for the offences punishable under Sections 353, 328 of IPC r/w Section 24(1) of Cigarette and other Tobacco Products Acts, 2003, in Crime No.344 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 patrol duty, they found that the accused was illegally transporting possession of 28.440 kilograms of banned tobacco products, worth about Rs.22,000/-. Hence the case.

3. The learned counsel appearing for the petitioner submitted that the petitioner is an innocent person and he has been falsely implicated in this case. He further submitted that he is in custody from 09.11.2022, hence, he prayed to grant bail to the petitioner.



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4. The Government Advocate (Crl.Side) appearing for the respondent police submitted that the accused had illegally transported 28.440 kilograms of banned tobacco products, worth about Rs.22,000/- and the respondent has seized the same. He further submitted that 6 kilograms of tobacco products was seized from the petitioner herein, who is arrayed as A3. He also stated that there is no previous case as against the petitioner, however, he opposed to grant bail to the petitioner.

5. At this juncture, the learned counsel for the petitioner submitted that without prejudice to his defense, the petitioner is ready and willing to deposit an amount of Rs.15,000/- as non- refundable deposit to any welfare scheme of the Government or to any shelter home and he is ready to abide by any stringent conditions that may be imposed by this Court. Hence, he prays for grant of bail to the petitioner.

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



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7. 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.15,000/- (Rupees Fifteen thousand only) as a non refundable deposit to **"The Government Kilpauk Medical College Hospital, Kilpauk, Chennai"**, without prejudice to his rights and contentions before the trial Court.

8. 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.

9. 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.15,000/- to any welfare scheme of the Government, this Court is inclined to grant bail to the petitioner with certain conditions.

10. Accordingly, the petitioner is ordered to be released on bail on condition to make a non refundable deposit of **Rs.15,000/- (Rupees Fifteen**



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thousand only) by way of Demand Draft/RTGS/NEFT to the "The Government Kilpauk Medical College Hospital, Kilpauk, Chennai, "Hospital Maintenance Fund", Canara Bank, Kilpauk Branch, A/c.No.1650101005396, IFSC Code : CNRB0001650, MICR Code : 600015050" 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) each with two sureties**, each for a like sum to the satisfaction of the **learned XIII Metropolitan Magistrate Court, Egmore, Chennai** 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;



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[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.

30.11.2022

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To

1. The XIII Metropolitan Magistrate ,
Egmore, Chennai.
2. The Inspector of Police,
V1 Villivakkam Police Station,
Chennai.
3. The Central Prison,
Puzhal, Chennai - 66.
4. The Public Prosecutor,
High Court of Madras.



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A.D.JAGADISH CHANDIRA.,J.

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