



Crl.O.P.No.7947 of 2023

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A.D.JAGADISH CHANDIRA, J.,

The petitioner, who apprehends arrest at the hands of the respondent police for the offences punishable under Sections 379 & 430 of IPC read with Sections 21(l) of Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act 1957 in Crime No.117 of 2023, seeks anticipatory bail.

2. The case of the prosecution is that on 15.03.2023 at about 11.00 a.m., the Inspector of Geology and Mining Department while patrolling at Santhavasal nearby Tamil Electricity Department, Sub Division Office, found that the petitioner was illegally transporting gravel soil in Ashok Leyland Vehicle bearing Registration No.TN-39-AA-1114. Hence the case.

3. The learned Counsel for the petitioner would submit that the petitioner is an innocent person and he has not committed any offence as alleged by the prosecution and he has been falsely implicated in this case as if the petitioner attempted to transport gravel soil. He further submitted that there is no previous case pending as against the petitioner.



Crl.O.P.No.7947 of 2023

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He would also submit that the petitioner is ready and willing to furnish solvent sureties and to abide by any stringent condition that may be imposed by this Court. Hence, he prays for grant of anticipatory bail to the petitioner.

4. The learned Government Advocate (Criminal Side) appearing for the respondent would submit that the petitioner had transported gravel soil in Ashok Leyland Vehicle bearing Registration No.TN-39-AA-1114. He would further submit that the petitioner has no previous case pending against him. However, he vehemently opposed to grant anticipatory bail to the petitioner.

5. Heard both sides and perused the materials available on record including the FIR.

6. 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



Crl.O.P.No.7947 of 2023

WEB COPY

petitioner is directed to deposit a sum of **Rs.10,000/- (Rupees Ten 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.

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

[a] the petitioner shall deposit a sum of **Rs.10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand only)** as non refundable deposit to the credit of the concerned **District Mineral Foundation Trust** within fifteen (15) days from the date of receipt of a copy of this order.



Crl.O.P.No.7947 of 2023

WEB COPY

[b] the petitioner shall execute 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 respondent police or the police officer who intends to arrest or to the satisfaction of the learned **Judicial Magistrate Polur, Thiruvannamalai District**, failing which, the petition for anticipatory bail shall stand dismissed and on further condition that:-

[c] the petitioner and the sureties shall affix their photographs and Left Thumb Impression in the surety bond and the respondent/police may obtain a copy of their Aadhar card or Bank pass Book to ensure their identity.

[d] the petitioner shall report before the respondent police everyday at 10.30 am until further orders.

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

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



Crl.O.P.No.7947 of 2023

[g] 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 is 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]**.

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

17.04.2023

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Crl.O.P.No.7947 of 2023

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mfa

Crl.O.P.No.7947 of 2023

17.04.2023