



WEB COPY



HCP(MD)No.1671 of 2022

BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED: 12.07.2023

CORAM

**THE HON'BLE MR JUSTICE M.S.RAMESH
AND
THE HON'BLE MR JUSTICE M.NIRMAL KUMAR**

H.C.P.(MD)No.1671 of 2022

Vairavan

.. Petitioner /Detenu

Vs.

1.The Principal Secretary to Government,
State of Tamil Nadu,
Home, Prohibition and Excise Department,
Fort St.George,
Chennai – 600 009.

2.The District Collector and District Magistrate,
Office of the District Collector and District Magistrate,
Dindigul District,
Dindigul.

3.The Superintendent of Prison,
Madurai Central Prison,
Madurai.

.. Respondents

PRAYER: Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India to issue a writ of Habeas Corpus, calling for the entire records connected with the detention order of the Respondent No.2 in Detention Order No.89/2022 dated 18.09.2022 and quash the same and direct the respondents to produce



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the body or person of the detenu by name Vairavan, son of Tamilmani, aged about 28 years, now detained as “Drug Offender” in Madurai Central Prison before this Court and set him at liberty forthwith.

For Petitioner : Mr.R.Alagumani

For Respondents : Mr.A.Thiruvadikumar
Additional Public Prosecutor

ORDER

(Order of the Court was made by M.S.RAMESH,J.)

The petitioner is the detenu viz., Vairavan, aged about 28 years, S/o.Tamilmani. The detenu has been detained by the second respondent by his order in Detention Order No.89/2022 dated 18.09.2022 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 several grounds have been raised in the Habeas Corpus Petition, the learned counsel appearing for the petitioner would mainly focus his argument on the ground that the detaining authority, after being aware of the fact that there was no bail application filed by the detenu, came to the conclusion that there is a real possibility of the detenu coming out on bail by relying upon the order passed in CrI.O.P.(MD).No.13789/2013 dated 18.09.2013. The learned counsel therefore submitted that the order that was relied upon by the detaining authority was not similar and on that score, the detention order is liable to be interfered with.

4. The learned Additional Public Prosecutor strongly opposed the Habeas Corpus Petition by filing his counter.

5. On carefully going through the detention order, the detaining authority was aware of the fact that no bail application was filed by the detenu. However, the detaining authority took into consideration the order passed in CrI.O.P.(MD).No.13789/2013 dated 18.09.2013 and came to the conclusion that there is a likelihood of the detenu coming out on bail. Perusal of the order shows that the accused therein were enlarged on bail



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since the co-accused were released on anticipatory bail. However, in the present case, none of the co-accused have been released and hence, the bail order that was relied upon by the detaining authority cannot be considered to be a similar one.

6. In view of the above, the detention order suffers from non application of mind and the same is liable to be interfered with by this Court. The impugned detention order is, therefore, liable to be quashed.

7. In the result, the Habeas Corpus Petition is allowed and the order of detention in Detention Order No.89/2022 dated 18.09.2022 passed by the second respondent is set aside. The detenu, viz., Vairavan, S/o.Tamilmani, aged about 28 years, is directed to be released forthwith unless his detention is required in connection with any other case.

(M.S.R.,J.) (M.N.K.,J.)
12.07.2023

NCC : Yes / No
Index : Yes / No
Lm



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and
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