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H.C.P.No.629 of 2024

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED : 18.06.2024

CORAM :

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE M.S. RAMESH
and
THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE SUNDER MOHAN

H.C.P.No.629 of 2024

M.Vijayalakshmi

... Petitioner

Vs.

1.The State of Tamil Nadu
rep. by its Additional Chief Secretary
Home, Prohibition and Excise Department
Chief Secretariat, Fort St. George, Chennai 600 009

2.The Commissioner of Police
Greater Chennai, Vepery, Chennai 600 007

3.The Superintendent of Prison
Central Prison, Puzhal, Chennai 600 066

4.The Inspector of Police
Job Racket Team, Team - VIII
Central Crime Branch, Vepery, Chennai 600 007

... Respondents

PRAYER: Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India to issue a Writ of Habeas Corpus, calling for the records in connection with the order of detention passed by the 2nd respondent in Memo No.34/BCDFGISSSV/2024 dated 13.01.2024 against detenu, petitioner's



H.C.P.No.629 of 2024

son namely C.M.Maran, S/o. late Manickam, aged 44 years, who is now confined at Central Prison, Puzhal, Chennai-66 and set aside the same and direct the respondents to produce the detenu C.M.Maran before this Court and set him at liberty.

For Petitioner : Mr.C.P.R.Kamaraj

For Respondents : Mr.A.Gokulakrishnan
Additional Public Prosecutor

ORDER

M.S.RAMESH, J.
and
SUNDER MOHAN, J.

The petitioner herein, who is the mother of the detenu viz. Thiru.C.M.Maran, aged about 44 years, S/o.late Manickam, has come forward with this petition challenging the detention order passed by the second respondent dated 13.01.2024 slapped on her son brother branding him as "GOONDA" under the Tamil Nadu Prevention of Dangerous Activities of Bootleggers, Cyber Law Offenders, Drug Offenders, Forest Offenders, Goondas, Immoral Traffic Offenders, Sand Offenders, Sexual Offenders, Slum Grabbers and Video Pirates Act, 1982 [Tamil Nadu Act 14 of 1982].



H.C.P.No.629 of 2024

WEB COPY

2. Heard the learned counsel for the petitioner, as well as the learned Additional Public Prosecutor appearing for the respondents.

3. The ground raised by the learned counsel for the petitioner challenging the order of detention is that though the Government had passed the order dated 13.10.2023 in G.O.(D) No.274, Home, Prohibition and Excise (XVI) Department, empowering the District Magistrate and District Collector to pass the detention order, the detention order came to be passed on 13.01.2024 after a period of three months and therefore, the detention order itself is vitiated.

4. Under Section 3 of the Tamil Nadu Prevention of Dangerous Activities of Bootleggers, Cyber Law Offenders, Drug Offenders, Forest Offenders, Goondas, Immoral Traffic Offenders, Sand Offenders, Sexual Offenders, Slum Grabbers and Video Pirates Act, 1982 [hereinafter called as Tamil Nadu Act 14 of 1982], the power to make an order to detain the person have been provided for. Sub Section 2 of Section 3 of the Tamil Nadu Act 14 of 1982, provides that having regard to the circumstances prevailing, or likely to prevail in any area within the jurisdiction of the



H.C.P.No.629 of 2024

WEB COPY

District Magistrate or Commissioner of Police and the State Government is satisfied that it is necessary so to do, they may pass an order in writing, empowering the District Magistrate to pass the order of detention. The Proviso to Sub Section 2 of Section 3 of the Tamil Nadu Act 14 of 1982, states that such a detention order shall be passed within a period of three months from the date on which the delegation order was passed. The Proviso further states that in case, the Government is satisfied that the period of three months requires to be extended, the same shall be done from time to time by any period not exceeding three months at any one time.

5. A perusal of the grounds of detention would reveal that though the order dated 13.10.2023 in G.O.(D) No.274, empowering the District Magistrate to pass the detention order was placed before the Detaining Authority, the subsequent order if any, arising out the delegation order and extending the period, has not been placed before the Detaining Authority. The G.O.(D) No.274 dated 13.10.2023 was valid till 12.01.2024. Apparently, the detention order passed after a period of three months from the date of empowering the District Magistrate, cannot be legally



H.C.P.No.629 of 2024

WEB COPY

sustainable and on this ground, the detention order is liable to be quashed.

6. Accordingly, for the aforesaid reasons, the detention order passed by the second respondent on 13.01.2024 in No.34/BCDFGISSSV/2024, is hereby set aside and the Habeas Corpus Petition is allowed. The detenu viz. Thiru.Maran, aged 45 years, S/o.Manickam, is directed to be set at liberty forthwith, unless his confinement is required in connection with any other case.

[M.S.R., J] [S.M., J]
18.06.2024

kas

Index: Yes/No

Neutral Citation: Yes/No

To

1.The Additional Chief Secretary
Home, Prohibition and Excise Department
Chief Secretariat
Fort St. George, Chennai 600 009

2.The Commissioner of Police
Greater Chennai
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Chennai 600 007



WEB COPY



H.C.P.No.629 of 2024

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5.The Public Prosecutor
High Court of Madras
Chennai 600 104

H.C.P.No.629 of 2024

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