



HCP.No.2470 of 2024

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED : 28.10.2024

CORAM :

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE S.M.SUBRAMANIAM
AND
THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE V.SIVAGNANAM

H.C.P.No.2470 of 2024

Sugunasri

... Petitioner

Vs.

1.The Secretary to Government,
Home, Prohibition and Excise Department,
Secretariat,
Chennai – 600 009.

2.The Commissioner of Police /
Detaining Authority
Tiruppur City,
Tiruppur District.

3.The Superintendent of Prison,
Central Prison, Coimbatore,
Coimbatore District.

4.State rep by its
The Inspector of Police,
PEW – Tiruppur Cirty,
Tiruppur District.

... Respondents



HCP.No.2470 of 2024

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PRAYER: Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India to issue a Writ of Habeas Corpus or any other appropriate writ, order or direction in the nature of a Writ of Habeas Corpus to call for the entire records relating to the petitioner's husband detention under Tamil Nadu Act 14 of 1982 vide detention order, dated 13.09.2024 on the file of the second respondent herein made in proceedings C.No.76/D.O./IS/Tiruppur City/2024, quash the same as illegal and consequently direct the respondents herein to produce the petitioner's husband namely Siranjeevi @ Appuchi @ Partha @ Parthasarathi, S/o.Ravikannan, aged 27 years before this Hon'ble High Court and set the petitioner's husband at liberty.

For Petitioner	: Mr.J.Jayam for M/s.W.Camyles Gandhi
For Respondents	: Mr.E.Raj Thilak Additional Public Prosecutor

ORDER

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

The order of detention passed by the 2nd respondent in proceedings C.No.76/D.O./IS/Tiruppur City/2024, dated 13.09.2024 is sought to be quashed in the present Habeas Corpus Petition.



HCP.No.2470 of 2024

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2.The learned counsel for the petitioner would submit that the similar bail order relied on by the detaining authority is dissimilar. The bail in the similar case was granted under Section 167 (2) Cr.P.C. and the same is statutory bail. Thus, reliance placed by the detaining authority has resulted in non application of mind. In the present case, the detinue is not entitled for statutory bail.

3.The Detaining Authority relied on the ground that the detinue Mr.Siranjeevi @ Appuchi @ Partha @ Parthasarathi, was arrested and remanded in Prohibition Enforcement Wing Police Station, Tiruppur City, in Crime No.701 of 2024. He has not filed any bail petition sofar in the said case. However, the Sponsoring Authority has stated that the detinue's relatives are taking steps to take him out on bail in the criminal cases by filing bail application. In a similar case, registered by Tiruppur City, Tiruppur Central Police Station in Crime No.129 of 2020 under Sections 8 (c) read with 20 (b) (ii) (B) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 bail was granted to some other accused by the Special Court for Essential Commodities Act Cases, Coimbatore, in Special Crl.M.P.No.115 of 2020. Thus, the Detaining Authority drew an



HCP.No.2470 of 2024

WEB COPY

inference that there is a possibility of coming out on bail in the above said cases, since it is similarly placed cases.

4.It is found that in the similarly placed case, the Court granted statutory bail under Section 167(2) Cr.P.C. Such statutory bail cannot be equated in the bail application likely to be filed by the detenue's relatives. The comparison made would reveal that there is no application of mind on the part of the Detaining Authority. Similar case need not be on similar facts. However, the analogy and the legal principles adopted must be similar, so as to form an opinion that the Detaining Authority has not applied his mind. Therefore, similarity does not mean or relatable to the facts of the case, but relatable to the legal principles and the grounds on which the bail was granted in the similar case.

5.In the present case, the similar case was considered and bail was granted under Section 167(2) Cr.P.C, which cannot be equated with the bail application likely to be filed by the relatives of the detenue. Thus, there is no application of mind on the part of the Detaining Authority, while passing the impugned order of detention. Preventive detention being



HCP.No.2470 of 2024

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dreconian, the Detaining Authority must be subjectively satisfied and it cannot be issued on the mere basis that the criminal case has been registered.

6. The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, in the case of ***Rekha vs. State of Tamil Nadu through Secretary to Government and Another¹***, has dealt with a situation, where the Detention Order is passed without an application of mind. In case, any of the reasons stated in the order of detention is non-existent or a material information is wrongly assumed, that will vitiate the Detention Order. When the subjective satisfaction was irrational or there was non-application of mind, the Hon'ble Supreme Court held that the order of detention is liable to be quashed. The relevant paragraphs 10 and 11 are extracted hereunder;

“10. In our opinion, if details are given by the respondent authority about the alleged bail orders in similar cases mentioning the date of the orders, the bail application number, whether the bail order was passed in respect of the co-accused in the same case, and whether the case of the co-accused was on the same footing as the

¹ [2011 (5) SCC 244]



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HCP.No.2470 of 2024

case of the petitioner, then, of course, it could be argued that there is likelihood of the accused being released on bail, because it is the normal practice of most courts that if a co-accused has been granted bail and his case is on the same footing as that of the petitioner, then the petitioner is ordinarily granted bail. However, the respondent authority should have given details about the alleged bail order in similar cases, which has not been done in the present case. A mere ipse dixit statement in the grounds of detention cannot sustain the detention order and has to be ignored.

11. In our opinion, the detention order in question only contains ipse dixit regarding the alleged imminent possibility of the accused coming out on bail and there was no reliable material to this effect. Hence, the detention order in question cannot be sustained.”

7. Hence, mere satisfaction would be insufficient to invoke preventive detention law. The subjective satisfaction must have nexus, link and proximity relating to the adverse cases relied on. Perusal of the



HCP.No.2470 of 2024

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records in the present case would reveal that the similar case relied on is not actually similar. Thus, there is no application of mind and the detention order in the present case, is liable to be quashed.

8. Accordingly, the detention order passed by the second respondent in C.No.76/D.O./IS/Tiruppur City/2024, dated 13.09.2024, is hereby set aside and the Habeas Corpus Petition is allowed. The detenu viz., Mr.Siranjeevi @ Appuchi @ Partha @ Parthasarathi, S/o.Ravikannan, aged about 27 years, who is now confined at Central Prison, Coimbatore, is directed to be set at liberty forthwith, unless his confinement is required in connection with any other case.

[S.M.S., J.] [V.S.G., J.]
28.10.2024

Index: Yes/No
Internet: Yes/No
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HCP.No.2470 of 2024

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AND
V.SIVAGNANAM, J.

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To

- 1.The Secretary to Government,
Home, Prohibition and Excise Department,
Secretariat,
Chennai – 600 009.
- 2.The Commissioner of Police /
Detaining Authority
Tiruppur City,
Tiruppur District.
- 3.The Superintendent of Prison,
Central Prison, Coimbatore,
Coimbatore District.
- 4.State rep by its
The Inspector of Police,
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Tiruppur District.
- 5.The Public Prosecutor,
Madras High Court.

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