



CRL OP(MD). No.6265 of 2024

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BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

(Criminal Jurisdiction)

Date : 23/04/2024

PRESENT

The Hon`ble Mr.Justice B.PUGALENDHI

CRL OP(MD). No.6265 of 2024

S.Balakrishnan,

... Petitioner/ Accused

Vs

The State represented by
The Inspector of Police,
Ayyampettai Police Station,
Thanjavur District.
Crime No.231/2024.

... Respondent/Complainant

For Petitioner : M/s.Kannan K,Advocate

For Respondent : Mr.E.Antony Sahaya Prabahar,
Additional Public Prosecutor

PETITION FOR BAIL Under Sec.439 of Cr.P.C.

PRAYER :-

For Bail in Crime No.231/2024 on the file of the Respondent Police.

ORDER : The Court made the following order :-

The respondent police registered a case as against this petitioner in Crime

No.231 of 2024 for the offence under Section 379 IPC r/w. 21(4) of Mines & Minerals

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(Development & Regulation) Act 1957 and remanded him into judicial custody on 09.04.2024. Therefore, the petitioner has filed this petition seeking bail.

2. The Case of the prosecution is that the petitioner has illegally transported 1/4 unit of river sand in a bullock cart.

3. The learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the petitioner is an innocent person and he has not committed any offence as alleged by the prosecution. However, he has been arrested and he is languishing in jail from 09.04.2024. Therefore, he prays for grant of bail.

4. The learned Additional Public Prosecutor appearing for the respondent submits that two previous cases are pending against the petitioner.

5. Considering the facts and circumstances of the case, the period of incarceration and also considering the quantity of the mineral, this Court is inclined to grant bail to the petitioner.

6. Accordingly, this Criminal Original Petition is ordered and the petitioner is ordered to be released on bail

i) on the petitioner executing a bond for a sum of Rs.25,000/- (Rupees Twenty Five Thousand) with two sureties each for a like sum to the satisfaction of the learned Judicial Magistrate No.III, Thanjavur District.

ii) The petitioner and the sureties shall submit a copy of their Aadhaar Card or



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any other identity card issued by the Government in proof of their residence address;

iii) The petitioner shall appear before the Inspector of police, Ayyampettai Police Station, daily at 10.30 a.m. until further orders and thereafter shall appear as and when required by the respondent police. He has to co-operate for the investigation.

iv) The petitioner shall not misuse the liberty granted to him by indulging in any further offence and shall not tamper with the prosecution witnesses. He shall be available for the trial as well.

v) On violation of any of the above conditions by the petitioner, the respondent police shall move an application for cancellation of the bail.

7. It is needless to say that any tool or instrument or vehicle used for illegal quarrying / transportation of sand is liable to be seized under Section 21(4) of the Mines and Minerals(Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 and any vehicle or instrument or tool which has been seized under Section 21(4) of the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957, is liable to be confiscated under Section 21(4-A) of the Act.

8. Though the above provision mandates the authorities to confiscate the tool or instrument or vehicle involved in the commission of the offence of illegal quarrying / transportation of sand, the authorities have not invoked the provision under Section



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21(4-A) of the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 and therefore, a Division Bench of this Court in W.P.No.19936 of 2016, etc., batch has emphasized the need for confiscation of the vehicles. Consequently, the Government has also issued certain directions to the authorities of Revenue, Police and Forest and Geology and Mining departments to seize the vehicles and for confiscation of the same in G.O.Ms.No.170, Industries (MMC-II) Department, dated 05.08.2020. Therefore, the respondent police is directed to proceed further as per Section 21 (4-A) of the Mines and Minerals(Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 and as per the guidelines issued in G.O.Ms.No.170, Industries (MMC-II) Department, dated 05.08.2020.

sd/-
23/04/2024

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23/04/2024
Sub-Assistant Registrar (C.S.)
Madurai Bench of Madras High Court,
Madurai - 625 023.

LR
TO

- 1 THE JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE NO.III
THANJAVUR DISTRICT.
- 2 DO THROUGH:
THE CHIEF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE,
THANJAVUR DISTRICT @ KUMBAKONAM.

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- 3 THE INSPECTOR OF POLICE
AYYAMPETTAI POLICE STATION,
THANJAVUR DISTRICT.
- 4 THE OFFICER INCHARGE
SUB JAIL, THANJAVUR.
- 5 THE ADDITIONAL PUBLIC PROSECUTOR,
MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT, MADURAI.

+1 CC to M/s.K.KANNAN, Advocate (SR-4750[I] dated 23/04/2024)

ORDER
IN
CRL OP(MD) No.6265 of 2024
Date :23/04/2024

PKP/23.04.2024/ 5P/7C

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