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HCP No. 217 of 2025



IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 07-04-2025

CORAM

**THE HONOURABLE MR JUSTICE M.S. RAMESH
AND
THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE N.SENTHILKUMAR**

HCP No. 217 of 2025

1. SANTHI

W/o.Gopinath, No.11/8, NrK Puram
Main Road, Murugasamy Near Consilar
House, Tiruppur Tiruppur District.

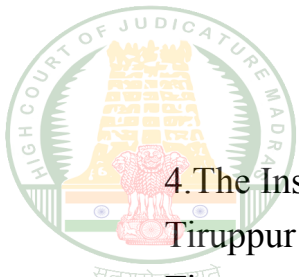
Petitioner(s)

Vs

1. The Secretary To The Government,
Home Prohibition And Excise
Department, Secretariat,
Chennai - 600 009

2.The Commissioner Of Police,
Detaining Authority Tiruppur City,
Tiruppur District.

3.The Superintendent
Central Prison Coimbatore



4.The Inspector Of Police,
Tiruppur North Police Station,
Tiruppur District.

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Respondent(s)

PRAYER

To issue a WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS or any other Writ or order in the nature of Writ call for the fore the records in Connection with the order of Detention passed by the 2nd respondent dated 30.12.2024 in C.No.108/G/IS/TIRUPPUR CITY/2024 against the petitioner son SAKTHI SHANMUGAM M/A 21 YEARS, SON OF GOPINATH who is confined at Central Prison, Coimbatore and set aside the same and consequently direct the Respondents to produce the detenu before the Honble Court and set him at Liberty.

For Petitioner(s): Mr.A.Saranraj

For Respondent(s): Mr.A.Gokulakrishnan
Additional Public Prosecutor
Assisted by Mr.M.Sylvester John

ORDER

M.S.RAMESH, J.

AND

N.SENTHILKUMAR,J.

The petitioner herein, who is the mother of the detenu viz., Sakthi Shanmugam S/o.Gopinath, aged about 21 years detained in Central Prison, Coimbatore, has come forward with this petition challenging the detention order passed by the second respondent dated 30.12.2024, slapped on her son, 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].

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

3. Though several grounds are raised in this petition, the learned counsel for the petitioner focused mainly on the ground that the subjective satisfaction of the Detaining Authority that the relatives of the detenu are taking steps to take out the detenu on bail, suffers from non-application of mind as the Report filed by the Investigating Officer is not dated. Hence, the learned counsel raised a *bona fide* doubt as to when the Report was sent by the Sponsoring Authority to the Detaining Authority. Hence, the subjective satisfaction of the Detaining Authority based on this undated document, would vitiate the Detention Order.

4. It is seen from the records that the Report of the Sponsoring Authority in page No.106 of Volume-I is not dated. When the Report of the Sponsoring Authority is not dated, the veracity of the Report becomes doubtful. The compelling necessity to detain the detenu would also depend on when the Sponsoring Authority has sent his Report. In the absence of the report, the compelling necessity to detain, becomes suspect. Hence, this Court is of the



view that the subjective satisfaction arrived at by the Detaining Authority based on such undated materials, suffers from non-application of mind.

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5. The Hon'ble Supreme Court, in the case of '**Rekha Vs. State of Tamil Nadu through Secretary to Government and another**' reported in '**2011 [5] SCC 244**', 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. It is relevant to extract paragraph Nos.10 and 11 of the said judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court:-

“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 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



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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.”

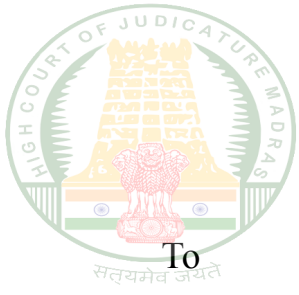
6. In view of the ratio laid down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court and in view of the aforesaid facts, this Court is of the view that the detention order is liable to be quashed.

7. Accordingly, the detention order passed by the second respondent on 30.12.2024 in C.No.108/G/IS/Tiruppur City/2024, is hereby set aside and the Habeas Corpus Petition is allowed. The detenu viz., Sakthi Shanmugam S/o.Gopinath, aged about 21 years detained in Central Prison, Coimbatore, is directed to be set at liberty forthwith, unless he is required in connection with any other case.

(M.S.RAMESH J.)(N.SENTHILKUMAR J.)

07-04-2025

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To

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1. The Secretary To The Government,
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2. The Commissioner Of Police,
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3. The Superintendent
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5. The Public Prosecutor,
High Court of Madras, Chennai - 104.



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