



Crl.O.P.Nos.4067 & 4083 of 2025

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED : 20.02.2025

CORAM

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUNDER MOHAN

Crl.O.P.Nos.4067 & 4083 of 2025

Pandiyar

... Petitioner in Crl.O.P.No.4067 of 2025.

1. Mani
2. Venugopal
3. Gajendran
4. Ramaraj

... Petitioners in Crl.O.P.No.4083 of 2025
Vs.

The State represented by,
The Forest Range Officer,
Odagathur Range,
Vellore District.
(W.L.O.R.No.1 of 2025).

... Respondent in both Crl.O.Ps

PRAYER: Criminal Original Petition filed under Section 483 of BNSS, pleaded to enlarge the petitioners on bail, in connection with the W.L.O.R.No.01 of 2025, pending investigation on the file of the respondent Police.

For Petitioners : Mr.G.Balamanikandan

For Respondent : Mr.Leonard Arul Joseph Selvam
Government Advocate (Crl.Side)

ORDER

This Criminal Original Petition has been filed by the petitioners, who were arrested and remanded to judicial custody on 11.01.2025, seeking bail in



Crl.O.P.Nos.4067 & 4083 of 2025

W.L.O.R.No.01 of 2025 registered for the offence under Sections 9, 39(1), 39(3), 44, 49-B, 50 & 51 of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972.

2. The case of the prosecution is that the petitioners along with other accused were found in illegal possession of Indian Pangolin. Hence, the case.

3. Learned counsel appearing for the petitioners submitted that the petitioners are innocent persons and they have been falsely implicated in this case. He further submitted that the petitioners are in custody from 07.01.2025 and since further custody is not required, the petitioners may be released on bail.

4. Learned Government Advocate (Crl.Side) reiterated the prosecution case and submitted that the Pangolin had been seized. He further submitted that the petitioners have no previous cases.

5. Heard the learned counsel appearing for the petitioners and the learned Government Advocate (Crl.Side) for the respondent Police and perused the materials available on record.



Crl.O.P.Nos.4067 & 4083 of 2025

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6. Considering the nature of allegations against the petitioner; period of incarceration; no previous case and since further custody is not required for the purpose of investigation, this Court is inclined to grant bail to the petitioners with certain conditions.

7. Accordingly, the petitioners are ordered to be released on bail on their executing a bond for a sum of **Rs.15,000/- (Rupees Fifteen Thousand only)** with **two sureties**, each for a like sum to the satisfaction of the learned **Judicial Magistrate No.III, Vellore.**

[a] the sureties shall affix their photographs and Left Thumb Impression in the surety bond and the Magistrate may obtain a copy of their Aadhar card or Bank pass Book to ensure their identity;

[b] the petitioners shall report before the respondent, everyday at 10.30 a.m., until further orders;

[c] the petitioners shall not abscond either during investigation or trial;

[d] the petitioners shall not tamper with evidence or witness either during investigation or trial;

[e] On breach of any of the aforesaid conditions, the learned Magistrate/Trial Court is entitled to take appropriate



CrI.O.P.Nos.4067 & 4083 of 2025

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action against the petitioners in accordance with law as if the conditions have been imposed and the petitioners released on bail by the learned Magistrate/Trial Court himself as laid down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in ***P.K.Shaji vs. State of Kerala [(2005)AIR SCW 5560]***;

[f] If the accused thereafter absconds, a fresh FIR can be registered under Section 269 B.N.S.

20.02.2025

Sma

To

1. Judicial Magistrate No.III, Vellore.
2. The Forest Range Officer,
Odagathur Range,
Vellore District.
3. The Superintendent,
Central Prison, Vellore.
4. The Public Prosecutor,
High Court of Madras.



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Crl.O.P.Nos.4067 & 4083 of 2025

SUNDER MOHAN., J.

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Crl.O.P.Nos.4067 & 4083 of 2025

20.02.2025