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Crl.O.P.No.5677 of 2



IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED : 03.03.2025

CORAM

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE SUNDER MOHAN

Crl.O.P.No.5677 of 2025

1.Saminathan
2.Rajaselvam

...Petitioners/Accused 1 & 2

Vs.

State rep by
The Inspector of Police,
Forest Ranger Office,
Kaniyambadi,
Vellore District.
(WLOR.No.02 of 2025)

...

Respondent

PRAYER: This criminal original petition has been filed under Section 483 of BNSS to enlarge the petitioners on bail in WLOR.No.02 of 2025 pending investigation on the file of the respondent police.

For Petitioners : Mr.M.Sathish Kumar

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



ORDER

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This Criminal Original Petition has been filed by the petitioners, who were arrested and remanded to judicial custody on 24.01.2025, seeking bail in WLOR.No.02 of 2025 registered for the offence under Sections 9, 39, 49, 50 & 51 of the Wild Life Protection Act, 1972.

2.It is the case of the prosecution that the petitioners were found to be in illegal possession of Indian Pangolin (Ant Eater) for selling. Hence, the case.

3.The learned counsel for the petitioners would submit that the allegations are false; that the petitioners have no previous cases and the Pangolin has been seized and that considering the period of incarceration suffered by the petitioners from 24.01.2025, they may be released on bail.

4.Per contra, the learned Government Advocate (Crl. Side) reiterated the prosecution case and submitted that the Pangolin has been seized and no previous cases are pending against the petitioners.



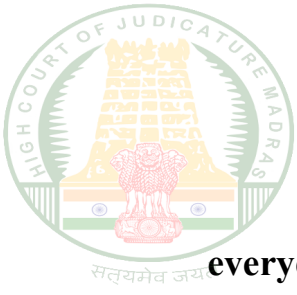
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5. Heard the learned counsel appearing for the petitioners and the learned Government Advocate (Crl.Side) for the respondent Police and perused the materials available on record.

6. Considering the nature of allegations, the fact that the Ant Eater has been seized and no previous case is pending against the petitioners and since further custody of the petitioners 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 separate bond for a sum of **Rs.15,000/- (Rupees Fifteen Thousand only) each** with **two sureties**, each for a like sum to the satisfaction of the **Judicial Magistrate No.I, Vellore, Vellore District**, and on further conditions that:

[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 Police, everyday at 10.30 a.m., until further orders;

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

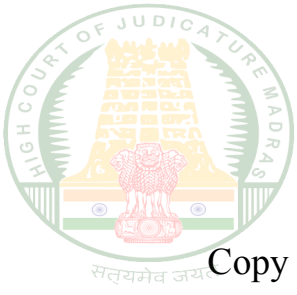
[d] the petitioners shall not tamper with evidence or witness either during investigation or trial;

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

03.03.2025

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- 1.The Inspector of Police,
Forest Ranger Office,
Kaniyambadi,
Vellore District.
- 2.The Judicial Magistrate No.I, Vellore.
- 3.Central Prison, Vellore.
- 4.The Public Prosecutor,
High Court, Madras.



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SUNDER MOHAN, J.

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