



H.C.P.No.632 of 2025

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

Dated : 05.06.2025

CORAM :

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE M.S.RAMESH

AND

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE V.LAKSHMINARAYANAN

H.C.P.No.632 of 2025

M.Meera

... Petitioner

Vs.

1.The State of Tamil Nadu
Rep. by its Secretary to Government
Home, Prohibition & Excise Department
Fort St. George
Chennai 600 009

2.The District Magistrate and District Collector
Office of the District Magistrate and District Collector
Cuddalore District

3.The Superintendent of Prison
Central Prison, Cuddalore

4.The Superintendent of Police
Office of Superintendent of Police
Cuddalore

5.The Inspector of Police
All Women Police Station, Sethiyathope

... Respondents



H.C.P.No.632 of 2025

PRAYER: Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, praying to issue Writ of Habeas Corpus, call for the entire records relating to the petitioner's husband detention under Tamil Nadu Act 14 of 1982 vide detention order dated 08.01.2025 on the file of the second respondent herein made in proceedings Memo C3/D.O./02/2025/Sexual Offender/2025 dated 08.01.2025 quash the same as illegal and consequently direct the respondents herein to produce the petitioner's husband namely Malarselvan, son of Govindaswamy, aged 51 years, before this Court and set his life at liberty from detention.

For petitioner : Mr.P.N.Vignesh

For Respondents : Mr.E. Raj Thilak
Additional Public Prosecutor

ORDER

M.S.RAMESH, J.
AND
V.LAKSHMINARAYANAN, J.

The petitioner herein, who is the wife of the detenu viz. Malarselvan, aged about 51 years, S/o.Govindhasamy, has come forward with this petition challenging the detention order passed by the second respondent dated 07.01.2025 slapped on her husband, branding him as "Sexual Offender" under the Tamil Nadu Prevention of Dangerous Activities of Bootleggers, Cyber Law Offenders, Drug Offenders, Forest Offenders,



H.C.P.No.632 of 2025

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 the petition, the learned counsel for the petitioner submitted that the subjective satisfaction of the detaining authority that the detenu is likely to come out on bail suffers from non application of mind, as the similar case relied upon by the detaining authority is not similar.

4. It is seen from the grounds of detention that the detaining authority has relied upon a bail order passed by the District Principal and Sessions Judge, Cuddalore, in CrI.M.P.No.1037 of 2022 dated 28.06.2022, in Crime No.222 of 2022, for an accused in the said case. On a perusal of the said order, we find that the said case cannot be said to be similar since the accused therein was released on bail Under Section 167(2). Therefore, the



H.C.P.No.632 of 2025

said case cannot be said to be similar. Hence, the subjective satisfaction of the Detaining Authority regarding the possibility of the detenu is likely to come out on bail suffers from non application of mind.

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



WEB COPY



H.C.P.No.632 of 2025

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 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.



H.C.P.No.632 of 2025

7. Accordingly, the detention order passed by the second respondent

WEB COPY

in C3/D.O./02/2025 dated 08.01.2025, is hereby set aside and the Habeas Corpus Petition is allowed. The detenu viz., Malarselvan, Male, aged about 51 years, S/o.Govindhasamy, presently detained at Central Prison, Cuddalore, is directed to be set at liberty forthwith, unless his confinement is required in connection with any other case.

[M.S.R, J.] [V.L.N, J.]
05.06.2025

kas

Index: Yes/No

Neutral Citation: Yes/No

To

1.The Secretary to Government
Home, Prohibition & Excise Department
Fort St. George
Chennai 600 009

2.The District Magistrate and District Collector
Office of the District Magistrate and District Collector
Cuddalore District

3.The Superintendent of Prison
Central Prison, Cuddalore



H.C.P.No.632 of 2025

4.The Superintendent of Police
Office of Superintendent of Police
Cuddalore

5.The Inspector of Police
All Women Police Station
Sethiyathope

6.The Public Prosecutor
High Court of Madras
Chennai 600 104



WEB COPY



H.C.P.No.632 of 2025

M.S.RAMESH, J.
and
V.LAKSHMINARAYANAN, J.

kas

H.C.P.No.632 of 2025

05.06.2025