



HCP.No.2086 of 2024

WEB COPY

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED : 14.03.2025

CORAM :

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

H.C.P.No.2086 of 2024

KEERTHIKA

... Petitioner/ wife of the detenue

Vs.

1. State Of Tamil Nadu
Rep. by Its Secretary, Prohibition
And Excise Department,
Fort St George,
Chennai 600 009

2.The District Collector And
Magistrate
Mayiladuthurai,
Mayiladuthurai District

3.The Superintendent Of Police
Mayiladuthurai,
Mayiladuthurai District

4.The Superintendent
Central Prison, Thiruchirappalli,

5.The Inspector Of Police
Sirkazhi Police Station,
Mayiladuthurai District

... Respondents



HCP.No.2086 of 2024

WEB COPY

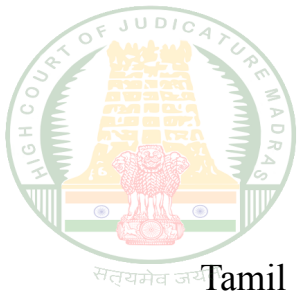
PRAYER: Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India to issue a Writ of Habeas Corpus, calling for the records of the detention dated 31.07.2024 in detention order C.O.C. NO. 32/2024 on the file of the second respondent herein and quash the same and direct the respondents herein to produce the petitioner's husband viz., Arunkumar @ Arun, S/o. Ravi, Hindu, aged about 33 years, confined in central prison Thiruchirappalli before this court and set him at liberty.

For Petitioner : Mr.R.Thamarai Selvan
For Respondents : Mr.R.Muniyapparaj
Additional Public prosecutor
assisted by Mr.M.Sylvester John

ORDER

M.S.RAMESH, J.
AND
N.SENTHILKUMAR, J.

The petitioner herein, who is the wife of the detenu namely Arunkumar @ Arun, S/o. Ravi, Hindu, aged about 33 years, confined in central prison Thiruchirappalli, has come forward with this petition challenging the detention order passed by the second respondent dated 31.07.2024 slapped on her husband, branding him as "Goonda" under the



HCP.No.2086 of 2024

WEB COPY

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 the learned counsel for the petitioner has raised several other grounds to assail the order of detention, he has mainly focused his argument on the ground that the English entries in the remand extension order has not been translated in vernacular language. This deprived the detenu from making effective representation. Therefore, on the sole ground, the detention order is liable to be quashed.

4. On perusal of the documents available on record, particularly in Page No.45 in Volume-I of the booklet, this Court finds that a copy of the remand extension order is available, in which the entries in English has not been translated in vernacular version. Therefore, the detenue is



HCP.No.2086 of 2024

WEB COPY

deprived from making effective representation and that the Detention Order passed by the Detaining Authority is vitiated.

5. In this context, it is useful to refer to the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in '**Powanammal Vs. State of Tamil Nadu**' reported in '**(1999) 2 SCC 413**'. The Hon'ble Supreme Court, after discussing the safeguards embodied in Article 22[5] of the Constitution, observed that the detenu should be afforded an opportunity of making representation effectively against the Detention Order and that, the failure to supply every material in the language which can be understood by the detenu, is imperative. In the said context, the Hon'ble Supreme Court has held in Paragraphs 9 and 16 {as in SCC journal} as follows:

“9.However, this Court has maintained a distinction between a document which has been relied upon by the detaining authority in the grounds of detention and a document which finds a mere reference in the grounds of detention. Whereas the non-supply of a copy of the document relied upon in the grounds of detention has been held to be fatal to continued detention, the detenu need not show that any prejudice is caused to him. This is because the



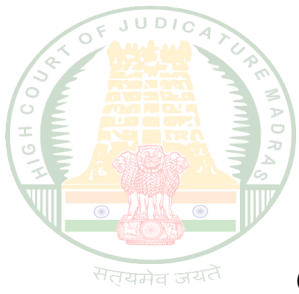
WEB COPY



HCP.No.2086 of 2024

non-supply of such a document would amount to denial of the right of being communicated the grounds and of being afforded the opportunity of making an effective representation against the order. But it would not be so where the document merely finds a reference in the order of detention or among the grounds thereof. In such a case, the detenu's complaint of non-supply of document has to be supported by prejudice caused to him in making an effective representation. What applies to a document would equally apply to furnishing a translated copy of the document in the language known to and understood by the detenu, should the document be in a different language.

..... **16.***For the above reasons, in our view, the non-supply of the Tamil version of the English document, on the facts and in the circumstances, renders her continued detention illegal. We, therefore, direct that the detenue be set free forthwith unless she is required to be detained in any other case. The appeal is accordingly allowed.”*



HCP.No.2086 of 2024

WEB COPY

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. Hence, for the aforesaid reasons, the detention order passed by the second respondent on 31.07.2024 in C.O.C. NO. 32/2024, is hereby set aside and the Habeas Corpus Petition is allowed. The detenu viz., Arunkumar @ Arun, S/o. Ravi, Hindu, aged about 33 years, confined in central prison Thiruchirappalli, is directed to be set at liberty forthwith, unless he is required in connection with any other case.

[M.S.R., J]

[N.S., J]

14.03.2025

Index: Yes/No

Speaking/Non-speaking order

Internet: Yes/No

Neutral Citation: Yes/No

Anu



HCP.No.2086 of 2024

WEB COPY

1.The Secretary, Prohibition And
Excise Department,
Fort St George,
Chennai 600 009

2.The District Collector And
Magistrate
Mayiladuthurai,
Mayiladuthurai District

3.The Superintendent Of Police
Mayiladuthurai,
Mayiladuthurai District

4.The Superintendent
Central Prison, Thiruchirappalli,

5.The Inspector Of Police
Sirkazhi Police Station,
Mayiladuthurai District

6.The Joint Secretary,
Law and Order Department,
Secretariat, Chennai.

7.The Public Prosecutor,
High Court, Madras.



WEB COPY



HCP.No.2086 of 2024

M.S.RAMESH, J.
and
N.SENTHILKUMAR, J.

Anu

H.C.P.No.2086 of 2024

14.03.2025