



HCP.No.1442 of 2025

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED 27.10.2025

CORAM

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE N.SATHISH KUMAR

AND

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE M.JOTHIRAMAN

H.C.P.No.1442 of 2025

Sowmiya

... Petitioner/
Wife of the detenu

Versus

1. The Secretary to the Government
Home, Prohibition and Excise Department
Secretariat, St.George Fort
Chennai – 600 009
2. The District Collector and District Magistrate
Tirupattur District
Tirupattur – 635 601
3. The Superintendent of Prison
Central Prison, Vellore
4. The Superintendent of Police
Tirupattur
5. The Inspector of Police



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Jolarpet Police Station
Tirupattur District

.. Respondents

Prayer:- Habeas Corpus Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India praying for a Writ of Habeas Corpus to call for the records in respect of the detention order passed by the second respondent dated 23.06.2025 in Detention Order no.C3/D.O.No.23/2025 and quash the same and consequently direct the respondents to set the detenue Vasanth Kumar, S/o.Saravanan at liberty forthwith, who is now confined in Central Prison, Vellore.

For Petitioner : Mr.T.Shanmugam

For Respondents : Mr.A.Gokulakrishnan
Additional Public Prosecutor

ORDER

(Order of the Court was made by N.SATHISH KUMAR, J.)

The petitioner, who is the wife of the detenu Vasanthkumar, S/o.Saravanan, male, aged 24 years, has come forward with this petition challenging the detention order passed by the second respondent dated 23.06.2025 bearing reference C3/D.O.No.46/2025 slapped on her husband branding him as "Goonda" under the Tamil Nadu Prevention of Dangerous



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Activities of Bootleggers, Drug Offenders, Forest Offenders, Goondas, Immoral Traffic Offenders, Sand Offenders, Slum Grabbers and Video Pirates Act, 1982 [Tamil Nadu Act 14 of 1982].

2. Heard the learned counsel for the petitioner and the learned Additional Public Prosecutor appearing for the respondents.

3. Though several grounds are raised in the petition, the learned counsel for the petitioner pointed out that the bail order relied upon by the Detaining Authority is not similar to the case on hand. Therefore, the learned counsel submitted that the Detaining Authority has not applied its mind while expressing its subjective satisfaction that the detenu is also likely to be released on bail.

4. The learned Additional Public Prosecutor would also fairly state that the similar case relied upon by the detaining authority is not a similar one.



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5. On a perusal of the Booklet, in Volume II page Nos.46-52, this Court finds that in the similar case relied upon by the Detaining Authority, i.e., Crl.O.P.No.3150 of 2023, dated 13.02.2023, the accused therein was granted bail mainly on the ground that there was no intention or motive on the part of the accused to murder the deceased and only due to sudden provocation, they have acted so. But in the present case, the detenu, alleged to have committed murder due to previous enmity. He went to the place of occurrence with deadly weapons along with other accused and alleged to have assaulted the deceased. However, the detaining authority took into consideration the said order passed in Crl.O.P.No.3150 of 2023 and came to the conclusion that there is very likely of the detenu coming out on bail. Therefore, the bail order that was relied upon by the detaining authority cannot be considered to be a similar one. Hence, this Court is of the view that the subjective satisfaction of the Detaining Authority that the detenu is also likely to be released on bail, by relying upon the aforesaid similar case, suffers from non-application of mind.



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6. 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



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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.”

7. 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.

8. In view of the aforesaid reason, the detention order passed by the 2nd respondent dated 23.06.2025 in C3/D.O.No.23/2025 is hereby set aside and the Habeas Corpus Petition is allowed. The detenu viz., Vasanthkumar, S/o.Saravanan, male, aged 24 years, is directed to be set at liberty forthwith unless he is required in connection with any other case.

[N.S.K.,J.] [M.J.R.,J.]
27.10.2025

Index: Yes/No
Neutral Citation: Yes/No
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To

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Tirupattur District
6. The Joint Secretary to Government
Public (Law & Order)
Fort Saint George, Chennai – 9
7. The Public Prosecutor
High Court, Madras.



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