

CRL.OP(MD). No.6536 of 2025

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BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED: 17.04.2025

PRESENT

THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE R.SAKTHIVEL

CRL.OP(MD). No.6536 of 2025

Rajendran

... Petitioner / Accused
Rank Not Known

Vs.

The State of Tamil Nadu rep by
The Inspector of Police,
Civil Supplies C.I.D.,
Virudhungar District.
(Crime No.20 of 2025)

... Respondent / Complainant

PRAYER :- The Criminal Original Petition filed under Section 482 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023 praying to grant pre-arrest bail to the petitioner in Crime No.20 of 2025 on the file of the respondent police.

For Petitioner : Mr.Lenin Kumar,
Advocate

For Respondent : Mr.S.S.Manoj,
Government Advocate
(Criminal Side)

ORDER : The Court made the following order :-



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This Criminal Original Petition has been filed by the petitioner on 04.04.2025 under Section 482 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023, praying to grant an order of pre-arrest bail.

2. The petitioner apprehends arrest at the hands of the respondent-police for the offences punishable under Clause 6(4) of TNSC (RDCS) Order 1982 read with 7 (1)(a)(ii) of Essential Commodities Act, 1955, in Crime No.20 of 2025 on the file of the respondent-police.

3. The case of the prosecution is that on 05.03.2025, while the respondent-police were on surveillance, a TATA Ace vehicle bearing Registration No.TN-67-AW-1415 was found loaded with 20 bags of rice, each containing 50 kg. It is further alleged that the petitioner collected the rice from family cardholders of locality and illegally transported it in the aforementioned vehicle.

4. Mr.Lenin Kumar, the learned counsel for the petitioner, submits that the petitioner is an innocent person and he has not committed any offence as alleged by the prosecution. He further submits that the petitioner has been falsely implicated in this case. He however submits that the petitioner is ready to abide by any conditions to be imposed by this Court. Accordingly, he prays to grant an order of pre-arrest bail to the petitioner.

5. *Per contra*, Mr.S.S.Manoj, the learned Government Advocate (Criminal Side)



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appearing for the respondent-police, submits that there are totally three accused persons in this case and the petitioner has been arrayed as A2. He further submits that the petitioner collected the rice from family cardholders and transported it in the aforementioned vehicle illegally. He further submits that if pre-arrest bail is granted to the petitioner, he will cause threat to witnesses and tamper with the evidence. He therefore prays to dismiss this Criminal Original Petition.

6. Heard on both sides. This Court has perused the records.

7. Considering the fact that since vehicle along with rice has already been seized, the custodial interrogation of the petitioner is no longer required by investigating agency and also the petitioner has permanent residence and deep roots in the society. Hence, there is less possibility of absconding. Considering the same and also considering the fact that the petitioner is a first offender and with a view to give an opportunity to the petitioner to reform himself, this Court is inclined to grant pre-arrest bail to the petitioner. Accordingly, pre-arrest bail is granted to the petitioner subject to the following conditions:

(i) The petitioner shall be released on pre-arrest bail in the event of his arrest or in the event of his surrender before the learned Judicial Magistrate No.I, Virudhunagar, within a period of 15 days from the date on which the order copy is made ready, on executing a bond for a sum of Rs.10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand



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only) along with two sureties each for a like sum of Rs.10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand only) to the satisfaction of the learned Judicial Magistrate No.I, Virudhunagar.

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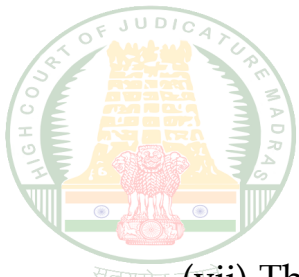
(ii) The sureties shall affix their photographs and left thumb impression in the Application for Suretyship [Judicial Form No.46 annexed to 'The Criminal Rules of Practice, 2019']. The learned Judicial Magistrate shall obtain a copy of any one of identity proofs to ensure their identity.

(iii) The petitioner is directed to deposit a sum of Rs.10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand only) to the credit of the Head Master, Government Higher Secondary School, Sathirakudi, Ramanathapuram District (Account No:- 11555089384, IFSC Code:- SBIN0002268), without prejudice to his rights and contentions before the Trial Court. Only upon deposit, the learned Magistrate shall accept the sureties.

(iv) The petitioner shall appear and sign before the respondent-police daily at 10.00 a.m. until further orders.

(v) The petitioner shall make himself available for interrogation by a police officer as and when required.

(vi) The petitioner shall not, directly or indirectly, make any inducement, threat or promise to any person acquainted with the facts of the case so as to dissuade him from disclosing such facts to the Court or to any police officer.



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(vii) The petitioner shall also not, directly or indirectly, cause any threat to the witnesses and shall not tamper the evidence.

(viii) The petitioner shall not leave India without the previous permission of the Court.

(ix) The petitioner shall furnish his residential address and mobile number to the concerned Magistrate.

(x) On breach of any of the aforementioned conditions, the learned Judicial Magistrate or Trial Court, as the case may be, is entitled to pass appropriate orders against the petitioner in accordance with law as if the aforementioned conditions are imposed by him as laid down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in *P.K. Shaji vs. State of Kerala [(2005) 13 SCC 283]*.

8. Accordingly, this Criminal Original Petition is allowed subject to the conditions stated *supra*.

Sd/-

17/04/2025

// True Copy //

/ /2025

Sub Assistant Registrar
(CS - I/II/III/IV)

Madurai Bench of Madras High Court,
Madurai.

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To मेव जयते

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- 1.The Judicial Magistrate No.I,
Virudhunagar.
- 2.Do Through
The Chief Judicial Magistrate,
Virudhunagar.
- 3.The Inspector of Police,
Civil Supplies C.I.D.,
Virudhungar District.
- 4.The Additional Public Prosecutor,
Madurai Bench of Madras High Court,
Madurai.

Copy to

The Head Master,
Government Higher Secondary School,
Sathirakudi,
Ramanathapuram District.

+1 CC to M/s.T.LENIN KUMAR, Advocate (SR-4456[I] dated 21/04/2025)

Order made in
CRL.OP(MD). No.6536 of 2025
17.04.2025

BV (07/05/2025) 6P/ 7C

Madurai Bench of Madras High Court is issuing certified copies in this format from 17.07.2023.