



Crl.R.C.(MD)No.497 of 2025

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BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED: 17.04.2025

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THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE K.MURALI SHANKAR

Crl.R.C.(MD)No.497 of 2025

Balalakshmi

... Petitioner

Vs.

State of Tamil Nadu rep. by
The Inspector of Police,
Thenkarai Police Station,
Theni District.
(Crime No.117 of 2025)

... Respondent

PRAYER : Criminal Revision Case filed under Section 438 r/w 442 B.N.S.S., to call for the records in Cr.M.P.No.608 of 2025 on the file of the learned Judicial Magistrate, Periyakulam, Theni District and set aside the order dated 24.03.2025 and handover the custody of vehicle viz., Ashok Leyland LTD bearing Registration No.TN-47-AR-6096 and in Chassis No.MB1G3DHD0JEW3681 remanded in Crime No.117 of 2025.

For Petitioner : Mr.C.Suresh Kannan

For Respondent : Mr.B.Thanga Aravindh
Government Advocate (Crl. Side)



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ORDER

The Criminal Revision is directed against the order passed in Crl.M.P.No.608 of 2025 dated 24.03.2025 on the file of the Judicial Magistrate, Periyakulam, dismissing the petition filed under Section 497 B.N.S.S.

2. The petitioner claims to be the owner of Ashok Leyland LTD tipper lorry bearing Registration No.TN-47-AR-6096. On 10.03.2025, the respondent police has registered a case in Crime No.117 of 2025 for the offences under Sections 340(2) and 303(2) BNS and Section 24 of Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 and seized the above said vehicle for the alleged transportation of gravel sand by forging the transit pass.

3. It is not in dispute that the petitioner has approached the learned Judicial Magistrate, Periyakulam, for returning of the said vehicle in Crl.M.P.No.608 of 2025 and the learned Judicial Magistrate, vide order dated 24.03.2025, has dismissed the petition. Aggrieved by the order of dismissal, the petitioner has now come forward with the present revision.



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4. Heard the learned counsel appearing for the petitioner and the learned Government Advocate (Crl. Side) appearing for the respondent.

5. The learned Government Advocate (Criminal Side) appearing for the respondent would submit that the petitioner is the owner of the vehicle and is the second accused in this case, that the petitioner is not having any previous cases for similar offence and that the said vehicle was not involved in any other cases. He would further submit that the value of the vehicle is worth about Rs.30 lakhs.

6. The learned counsel appearing for the petitioner would submit that the vehicle bearing Registration No.TN-47-AR-6096 is owned by the petitioner, that the said vehicle has no connection whatever with the alleged occurrence, that if the vehicle is kept in open place, the value of the said vehicle will get deteriorated and that therefore interim custody may be granted to the petitioner.

7. Considering the facts and circumstances of the case and also the fact that if the vehicle is kept in open place exposing to sun and rain, the



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value of the vehicle will be deteriorated and no purpose will be served in keeping the vehicle in custody, this Court is inclined to allow the revision and thereby setting aside the impugned order dated 24.03.2025 passed in Crl.M.P.No.608 of 2025, by the learned Judicial Magistrate, Periyakulam.

8. Accordingly, this Criminal Revision Case is allowed and the order dated 24.03.2025 passed in Crl.M.P.No.608 of 2025 by the learned Judicial Magistrate, Periyakulam, is hereby set aside and the vehicle/ Ashok Leyland LTD tipper lorry bearing Registration No.TN-47-AR-6096, is ordered to be returned to the petitioner for interim custody subject to the confiscation proceedings to be taken by the concern Department or by the Court on the following conditions:-

- (a) the petitioner is directed to deposit a sum of **Rs.25,000/- (Rupees Twenty Five Thousand only)** as non-refundable deposit for the said vehicle to the credit of the District Mineral Foundation Trust, Theni District;
- (b) the petitioner shall execute a bond for a sum of **Rs.10,00,000/- (Rupees Ten Lakhs only)**, with two sureties for a likesum to



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- the satisfaction of the learned Judicial Magistrate, Periyakulam;
- (c) the petitioner shall deposit the original Registration Certificate of the vehicle before the learned Judicial Magistrate, Periyakulam;
- (d) The petitioner shall give an undertaking before the respondent/ authority concerned stating that she will not use the vehicle in question for any illegal activities in future, failing which the respondent/trial Court is at liberty to confiscate the vehicle;
- (e) the petitioner shall not alienate and shall not make any alteration in the vehicle;
- (f) the petitioner shall produce the vehicle before the Court and before the respondent police as and when required;

17.04.2025

NCC : Yes / No
Index : Yes / No
Internet : Yes / No
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K.MURALI SHANKAR,J.

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To

- 1.The Judicial Magistrate,
Periyakulam.
- 2.The Inspector of Police,
Thenkarai Police Station,
Theni District.
- 3.The Additional Public Prosecutor,
Madurai Bench of Madras High Court,
Madurai.

Order made in
Crl.R.C.(MD)No.497 of 2025

Dated: 17.04.2025