



Crl.R.C.(MD)No.514 of 2025

WEB COPY

BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED: 29.04.2025

CORAM

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE K.MURALI SHANKAR

Crl.R.C.(MD)No.514 of 2025

V.Balamurugan

... Petitioner

Vs.

The State of Tamil Nadu rep. by its
The Inspector of Police,
Aundipatti Police Station,
Theni District.
(Crime No.474 of 2024)

... Respondent

PRAYER : Criminal Revision Case filed under Section 438 r/w 442 B.N.S.S., to call for the records and set aside the order passed in Crl.M.P.No.500 of 2025 dated 21.03.2025 passed by the Judicial Magistrate (FAC), Aundipatti and to grant interim custody of the vehicle to the petitioner.

For Petitioner : Mr.M.Gandhirajan

For Respondent : Mr.S.Ravi
Additional Public Prosecutor



Crl.R.C.(MD)No.514 of 2025

WEB COPY

ORDER

The Criminal Revision is directed against the order passed in Crl.M.P.No.500 of 2025 dated 21.03.2025 on the file of the Judicial Magistrate, Andipatti, dismissing the petition filed under Section 497 B.N.S.S.

2. The petitioner claims to be the owner of tractor bearing Registration No.TN-60-AM-6076 and trailer. On 26.11.2024, the respondent police has registered a case in Crime No.474 of 2024 for the offences under Section 303(2) BNS and Section 21(4) of Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 and seized the above said vehicle for the alleged transportation of $\frac{1}{4}$ unit of odai sand.

3. It is not in dispute that the petitioner has approached the learned Judicial Magistrate, Andipatti, for returning of the said vehicle in Crl.M.P.No.500 of 2025 and the learned Judicial Magistrate, vide order dated 21.03.2025, has dismissed the petition. Aggrieved by the order of dismissal, the petitioner has now come forward with the present revision.



Crl.R.C.(MD)No.514 of 2025

WEB COPY

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 first 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-60-AM-6076 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



Crl.R.C.(MD)No.514 of 2025

WEB COPY

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 21.03.2025 passed in Crl.M.P.No.500 of 2025, by the learned Judicial Magistrate, Andipatti.

8. Accordingly, this Criminal Revision Case stands allowed and the order dated 21.03.2025 passed in Crl.M.P.No.500 of 2025 by the learned Judicial Magistrate, Andipatti, is hereby set aside and the vehicle/tractor bearing Registration No.TN-60-AM-6076 and trailer, 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



WEB COPY



Crl.R.C.(MD)/No.514 of 2025

- the satisfaction of the learned Judicial Magistrate, Andipatti;
- (c) the petitioner shall deposit the original Registration Certificate of the vehicle before the learned Judicial Magistrate, Andipatti;
- (d) The petitioner shall give an undertaking before the respondent/ authority concerned stating that he 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;

29.04.2025

NCC : Yes / No
Index : Yes / No
Internet : Yes / No
csm



WEB COPY



Crl.R.C.(MD)No.514 of 2025

K.MURALI SHANKAR,J.

csn

To

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

Order made in
Crl.R.C.(MD)No.514 of 2025

Dated: 29.04.2025