



H.C.P.(MD)No.541 of 2025

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BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED : 10.12.2025

CORAM:

THE HONOURABLE MR JUSTICE G.K. ILANTHIRAIYAN

AND

THE HONOURABLE MS.JUSTICE R. POORNIMA

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Chandrasekar

(Now confining at Madurai Central Prison) ... Petitioner/Detenu

-VS-

1.State of Tamilnadu,

Rep. by the Principal Secretary to the Government,
Home, Prohibition and Excise Department,
Fort St. George, Chennai - 600 009.

2.The Commissioner of Police,

Office of the Commissioner of Police,
Madurai City, Madurai.

3.The Superintendent of Prison,

Madurai Central Prison,
Madurai District.

... Respondents

PRAYER: Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India
praying to issue a Writ of Habeas Corpus, calling for the entire records,



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connected with the detention order of the Respondent No.2 in No. 09/BCDFGISSSV/2025 dated 29.03.2025 and quash the same and direct the respondents to produce the body or person of the detenu by name Chandrasekar, son of Pandi, aged about 14 years, now detained as “Drug Offender” at Madurai Central Prison before this Court and set him at liberty forthwith.

For Petitioner : Dr.R.Alagumani

For Respondents : Mr.T.Senthil Kumar
Additional Public Prosecutor

ORDER

(Order of the Court was made by **G.K. ILANTHIRAIYAN,J.**)

The petitioner is the detenu viz., Chandrasekar, son of Pandi, aged about 41 years. The detenu has been detained by the second respondent by his order in No.09/BCDFGISSSV/2025, dated 29.03.2025 holding him to be a "Drug Offender", as contemplated under Section 2(e) of Tamil Nadu Act 14 of 1982. The said order is under challenge in this habeas corpus petition.



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2. We have heard the learned counsel appearing for the petitioner and the learned Additional Public Prosecutor appearing for the respondents. We have also perused the records produced by the Detaining Authority.

3. The learned counsel appearing for the petitioner raised the grounds that the detenu was arrested and remanded to judicial custody on 23.02.2025 in pursuant to the registration of the FIR in Cr.No.23 of 2025 for the offence under Section 8(c) r/w 20(b) (ii) (B), 25, 29 (1) Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act 1985. It was shown as ground case. However, the detention order was passed only on 29.03.2025 after a period of 34 days. This inordinate delay in passing the detention order would vitiate the same. He further submitted that there is no live and proximate link between the date of arrest and the date of the detention order. Hence, on this ground, the present impugned detention order is also liable to be set aside.

4. On a perusal of the counter affidavit and also the submission made by the learned Additional Public Prosecutor appearing



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for the respondents reveals that there is no explanation for the delay of 34 days in passing the detention order. The live and proximate link between the arrest of the detenu and the need for passing the order of detention has snapped. Thus, on this sole ground alone, the impugned order of detention is liable to be set aside.

5. In the case of *Sushanta Kumar Banik vs. State of Tripura*, reported in *2022 SCC Online (SC) 1333*, when there was an inordinate delay from the date of proposal till passing of the detention order and likewise, between the date of actual arrest and the date of detention order, the Honourable Supreme Court has held that the live and proximate link, between the grounds and the purpose of detention, stands snapped throwing a considerable doubt on the genuineness of the requisite satisfaction of the detaining authority in passing the detention order unless such delay is satisfactorily explained and consequently making it invalid. The relevant portion is extracted hereunder:-

"20. It is manifestly clear from a conspectus of the above decisions of this Court, that the underlying principle is that if there is



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unreasonable delay between the date of the order of detention & actual arrest of the detenu and in the same manner from the date of the proposal and passing of the order of detention, such delay unless satisfactorily explained throws a considerable doubt on the genuineness of the requisite subjective satisfaction of the detaining authority in passing the detention order and consequently render the detention order bad and invalid because the “live and proximate link” between the grounds of detention and the purpose of detention is snapped in arresting the detenu. A question whether the delay is unreasonable and stands unexplained depends on the facts and circumstances of each case.”

6. In view of the above, as pointed out by the counsel for the petitioner, the delay has not been satisfactorily explained, thereby vitiating and invalidating the detention order.

7. In the result, the Habeas Corpus Petition is allowed and the order of detention in No.09/BCDFGISSSV/2025, dated 29.03.2025,



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passed by the second respondent is set aside. The detenu, viz., Chandrasekar, son of Pandi, aged about 41 years, is directed to be released forthwith unless his detention is required in connection with any other case.

[G.K.I., J.] [R.P., J.]

10.12.2025

am

NCC :Yes/No

Index: Yes/No

Internet: Yes/No

To

- 1.The Principal Secretary to the Government,
Home, Prohibition and Excise Department,
Fort St. George, Chennai - 600 009.
- 2.The Commissioner of Police,
Office of the Commissioner of Police,
Madurai City, Madurai.
- 3.The Superintendent of Prison,
Madurai Central Prison,
Madurai District.
- 4.The Additional Public Prosecutor,
Madurai Bench of Madras High Court,
Madurai.



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G.K. ILANTHIRAIYAN,J.
AND
R. POORNIMA,J.

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