



IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 17-04-2026

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THE HON'BLE DR.JUSTICE ANITA SUMANTH

AND

THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE SUNDER MOHAN

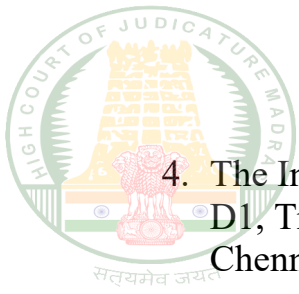
HCP No. 136 of 2026

E.Saravanan @ Sullan
S/o. Elumalai,
Residing at
No.17/16, Kareem Mohaideen Street,
Chindatripet,
Chennai - 600 002.

..Petitioner(s)

Vs

1. The State of Tamil Nadu Rep.by, The Additional
Chief Secretary to Government,
Home, Prohibition and Excise Department,
Secretariat,
Chennai - 600 009.
2. The Commissioner of Police,
Greater Chennai,
Office of Commissioner of Police
(Goondas Section),
Vepery,
Chennai - 600 007.
3. The Superintendent of Prison,
Central Prison-II,
Puzhal, Chennai - 600 066.



4. The Inspector of Police,
D1, Triplicane Police Station,
Chennai - 600 005.

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..Respondent(s)

Prayer: Habeas Corpus Petition filed under Article 226 of Constitution of India for issuance of a Writ of Habeas Corpus to call for the records pertaining to the Detention order No.367/BCDFGISSSV/2025 dated 17.06.2025 passed by the 2nd Respondent against me, Thiru.Saravanan @ Sullan, S/o. Elumalai, now detained at Central Prison, Puzhal-II and quash the same and direct the respondents to produce the body and person of the detenu detained in Central Prison, Puzhal-II, Chennai, before this Court and set him at Liberty.

For Petitioner(s): Mr.K.Kishore Kumar

For Respondent(s): Mr.R.Muniyapparaj
Additional Public Prosecutor
Assisted By
Mr.M. Sylvester John

ORDER

(Order of the Court was made by Sunder Mohan J.)

The detenu-Saravanan @ Sullan, branded as 'Goonda' under Section 2(f) of the Tamil Nadu Act 14 of 1982, has filed this petition challenging the detention order dated 17.06.2025.

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

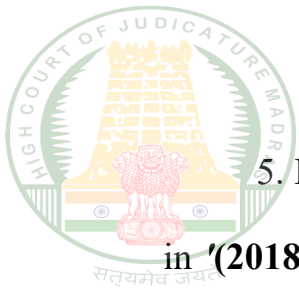
3. It is seen from the impugned order and the grounds of detention that the detenu was arrested on 16.05.2025 and he was detained on 17.06.2025.



Neither in the grounds of detention nor in the counter affidavit filed by the 2nd respondent, any satisfactory explanation has been given for the delay in passing the order of detention. We are of the view that in view of the delay, the live and proximate link between grounds of detention and the purpose of detention, stood snapped. In this regard, we may rely upon the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in '**Sushanta Kumar Banik Vs. State of Tripura**', reported in '**2022 LiveLaw (SC) 813**' and the relevant paragraph reads as follows:

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

4. Drawing inspiration from the judgment in **Sushanta Kumar Banik's case**, a co-ordinate Bench of this Court in the case of '**Gomathi Vs. Principal Secretary to Government and Others**', reported in '**2023 SCC OnLine Mad 6332**', had held that when there is an inordinate delay from the date of arrest/date of proposal till the order of detention, the live and proximate link between them would also stand snapped and thereby, had quashed the detention order on this ground.



5. In yet another case i.e., in '*Nagaraj Vs. State of Tamil Nadu*', reported in '**(2018) 3 MWN (Cri) 428**', this Court had held that the delay of 36 days in passing the detention order after the arrest of the detenu would snap the live and proximate link between the grounds and purpose of detention. Hence, in view of the unexplained and inordinate delay in passing the order of detention, after the arrest of the detenu, the detention order in the present case, is liable to be quashed.

6. Accordingly, this Habeas Corpus Petition is allowed and the Detention Order passed by the second respondent in Detention Order No.367/BCDFGISSSV/2025 dated 17.06.2025 is set aside.

7. The detenu, viz., Saravanan @ Sullan, S/o. Elumalai, aged 36 years, now confined in Central Prison, Puzhal, Chennai, is directed to be set at liberty forthwith, unless his presence is required in connection with any other case.

(A.S.M.,J.) (S.M.,J.)

17-04-2026

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Index: Yes/No

Speaking/Non-speaking order

Neutral Citation: Yes/No

Note to Registry: Issue Today.



To

1. The State of Tamil Nadu Rep.by, The Additional Chief Secretary to Government,
Home, Prohibition and Excise Department,
Secretariat,
Chennai - 600 009.
2. The Commissioner of Police,
Greater Chennai,
Office of Commissioner of Police
(Goondas Section),
Vepery, Chennai - 600 007.
3. The Superintendent of Prison,
Central Prison-II,
Puzhal, Chennai - 600 066.
4. The Inspector of Police,
D1, Triplicane Police Station,
Chennai - 600 005.
5. The Public Prosecutor,
High Court of Madras.
6. The Joint Secretary to Government,
Public (Law and Order),
Secretariat, Fort.St.George, Chennai -9.



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DR.ANITA SUMANTH J.

AND

SUNDER MOHAN J.

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