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IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 12.02.2026

CORAM

THE HONOURABLE MR JUSTICE K. RAJASEKAR

CRL OP NO.3344 of 2026

Bharathi

... Petitioner/ Accused

Vs

The State rep by,
The Inspector of Police,
Sooramangalam Police Station,
Salem
(Crime No.30 of 2026)

... Respondent

PRAYER : Criminal Original Petition filed under Section 483 of Bharatiya
Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, to grant bail in Crime No. 30 of 2026 on
the file of the respondent police and pass orders.

For Petitioner(s) : Mr. L. Ramanathan
For Respondent(s) : Mr. A. Gopinath
Government Advocate (Crl. Side)

ORDER

The petitioner, who was arrested and remanded to judicial custody on
19.01.2026 for the offences under Sections 123 of BNS Act r/w 24(1) of
Cigarettee and other Tobacco Products Act, 2003 in Crime No.30 of 2026,
registered on the file of the respondent police, seeks bail.



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2.The case of the prosecution is that when the respondent police is on regular vehicle up near Omalur – Salem National High way they found that the petitioner along with other accused were transporting 125 kgs of banned tobacco products. Hence the case.

3.The learned counsel appearing for the petitioner submitted that the petitioner has not committed any offence as alleged by the prosecution and he is in judicial custody from 19.01.2026 He further submitted that the petitioner is ready to co-operate with the investigation and abide by any other stringent conditions that may be imposed by this Court . Hence, prays to grant bail.

4.The learned Government Advocate (Criminal Side) appearing for the respondent while opposing the bail to the petitioner, reiterated the prosecution case and submitted that the quantity involved in this case is very huge and investigation in this case is not yet completed. Hence, he opposed to grant bail to the petitioner.



5. Considering the submissions made by the learned counsel appearing on either side; previous antecedents of the petitioner and taking note of the fact that the quantity involved in this case is very huge, this Court is not inclined to grant bail to the petitioner.

6. Accordingly, this criminal original petition stands dismissed.

12.02.2026

smn

To

1. The Judicial Magistrate II, Salem

2. The Inspector of Police,
Sooramangalam Police Station,
Salem

3. The Public Prosecutor,
High Court, Madras



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K. RAJASEKAR, J.

smn

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