



IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 20-05-2026

CORAM

THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE R.SAKTHIVEL

CRL OP No. 12778 of 2026

Arjunan
S/o.Raja,
No. 312, Setteri,
Velakalnatham Post,
Natrampalli Taluk,
Tirupattur District 635 854

..Petitioner/Sole
Accused

Vs

The state represented by, The Inspector of Police,
Natrampalli Police Station,
Tirupattur District
(Crime No. 116 of 2026)

..Respondent/
complainant

PRAYER :- Criminal Original Petition filed under Section 482 of the Bharatiya
Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023 praying to enlarge the
Petitioner/Accused on Anticipatory Bail in the event of his arrest in Crime No.
116 of 2026 pending investigation on file of the Respondent Police (Natrampalli
Police Station, Tirupattur District).

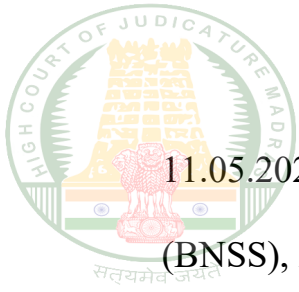
For Petitioner: Mr.S.Mageshkumar

For Respondent: Mr. V.Meganathan,
Government Advocate (criminal side)

ORDER :

The Court made the following order :-

This Criminal Original Petition has been filed by the petitioner on



11.05.2026 under Section 482 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023, praying to grant an order of pre-arrest bail.

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2. The petitioner apprehends arrest at the hands of the respondent-police for the offences punishable under Sections 326(a), 303(2) of BNS, 2023, read with 21(1) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, in Crime No.116 of 2026 on the file of the respondent-police.

3. The case of the prosecution is that on March 8, 2026, at approximately 2.00pm, the petitioner was caught smuggling 1 unit of lake sand using a tractor bearing Registration No. TN 83 MD 2658 without a valid permit. Following a complaint lodged by the Sub Inspector S.Ranjith of the respondent Police station, an FIR in Crime No.116 of 2026 was registered against the petitioner. Hence, the case.

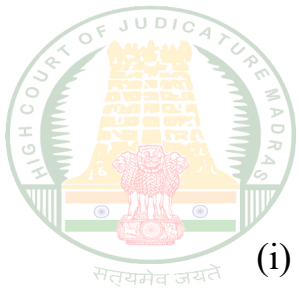
4. Mr.S.Mageshkumar, the learned counsel for the petitioner, submits that the petitioner is an innocent person and he has not committed any offence as alleged by the prosecution. He however submits that the petitioner is ready to abide any conditions to be imposed by this Court. Accordingly, he prays to grant an order of pre-arrest bail to the petitioner.



5. *Per contra*, Mr. V.Meganathan, the learned Government Advocate (Criminal Side) appearing for the respondent-police, submits that the accused person was illegally transporting one unit of lake sand by using vehicle. He further submits that there is no previous cases against the petitioner. He further submits that the investigation of the case is still pending and therefore, at this stage, if the pre-arrest bail is granted to the petitioner, he will commit similar type of offence and cause loss to wealth of the nation. Accordingly, he prays to dismiss this Criminal Original Petition.

6. Heard on both sides. This Court has perused the records.

7. Considering the fact that the vehicle along with allegedly transported one unit of lake sand has already been seized by the respondent-police and also considering there is no previous case against the petitioner, this Court is of the view that the custodial interrogation of the petitioner is not necessary. Further, the petitioner has permanent residence and deep roots in the society. Hence, there is less possibility of absconding. Considering the same and also considering the facts and circumstances of the case, the nature of the offence, the quantity of lake sand allegedly transported by the accused person and with a view to give an opportunity to the petitioner to reform himself, this Court is inclined to grant pre-arrest bail to the petitioner. Accordingly, pre-arrest bail is granted to the petitioner subject to the following conditions:



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(i) The petitioner shall be released on pre-arrest bail in the event of his arrest or in the event of his surrender before the learned Judicial Magistrate III, Thirupathur, within a period of 15 days from the date on which the order copy is made ready, on executing a bond for a sum of Rs.10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand only) along with two sureties each for a like sum of Rs.10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand only) to the satisfaction of the learned Judicial Magistrate III, Thirupathur.

(ii) The sureties shall affix their photographs and left thumb impression in the Application for Suretyship [Judicial Form No.46 annexed to 'The Criminal Rules of Practice, 2019']. The learned Judicial Magistrate III, Thirupathur shall obtain a copy of any one of identity proofs to ensure their identity.

(iii) The petitioner shall appear and sign before the respondent police twice a week on Monday and Friday at 10.00 a.m. until further orders.

(iv) The petitioner shall make himself available for interrogation by a police officer as and when required.

(v) The petitioner shall not, directly or indirectly, make any inducement, threat or promise to any person acquainted with the facts of the case so as to



dissuade them from disclosing such facts to the Court or to any police officer.

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(vi) The petitioner shall also not, directly or indirectly, cause any threat to the defacto complainant and witnesses and shall not tamper the evidence.

(vii) The petitioner shall not leave India without prior permission of the Court.

(viii) The petitioner shall furnish his residential address and mobile number to the learned Judicial Magistrate III, Thirupathur.

(ix) On breach of any of the aforementioned conditions, the learned Judicial Magistrate III, Thirupathur or Trial Court, is entitled to pass appropriate orders against the petitioner in accordance with law as if the aforementioned conditions are imposed by them as laid down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in ***P.K. Shaji vs. State of Kerala [(2005) 13 SCC 283]***.

8. Accordingly, this Criminal Original Petition is allowed subject to the conditions stated *supra*.

20-05-2026
(RSVJ)

Index: Yes/No
Speaking/Non-speaking order
Neutral Citation: Yes/No

JRS/RPP



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R.SAKTHIVEL, J.

JRS/RPP

Note: 1. Registry is directed to forthwith upload this order in the official website of this Court.
2. All concerned to act on this order being uploaded in official website of this Court without insisting on certified hard copies. To be noted, this order when uploaded in official website of this Court will be watermarked and will also have a QR code.

To

1.The Judicial Magistrate III, Thirupathur.

2.The Inspector of Police,
Natrampalli Police Station,
Tirupattur District
(Crime No. 116 of 2026)

3.The Additional Public Prosecutor,
Madras High Court.

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