



IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 18-06-2026

CORAM

THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE C.KUMARAPPAN

CRL OP No. 15341 of 2026

M.Venkatesh

..Petitioner

Vs

State Represented by,
The Inspector of Police,
B-5, Kitchipalayam Police Station,
Salem City.

..Respondent

PRAYER: Criminal Original Petition filed under Section 482 of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, to enlarge the petitioner on bail in the event of his arrest concerned in Crime No.Not Known of 2026, on the file of the Inspector of Police, B-5, Kitchipalayam Police Station, Salem City.

For Petitioner:

Mr.Vijaya Basker N

For Respondent:

Ms.R.S.Indira
Government Advocate (Crl.Side)

ORDER

The petitioner apprehends arrest for the alleged offence under Sections 296(b) & 351(2) of BNS Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (Old Sections 294(b) & 506(ii) of I.P.C) and under Sections 5, 6 & 7(3) of the Lotteries (Regulation) Act, 1998 in Crime No.Not Known of 2026, seeks anticipatory bail.



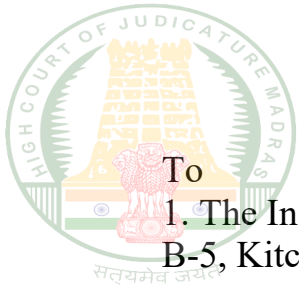
2. When the matter is taken up for hearing today, the learned Government Advocate (Crl.Side) appearing for the respondent submits that current paper enquiry is pending against the petitioner.

3. In such circumstances, this Court is of the firm view that the respondent Police may be directed to follow the procedure as laid down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in *Satender Kumar Antil v. Central Bureau Of Investigation* reported in (2026 INSC 115) and 2025 SCC OnLine SC 1578 and the Investigating Officer has to conduct the enquiry by strictly following the procedures therein and if any *prima facie* case is made out against the petitioner, register the F.I.R or close the petition enquiry within a period of two weeks from today. The parties are directed to cooperate with the enquiry. It is needless to say that the respondent police shall not take any coercive steps to secure the accused till the completion of enquiry, on the complaint lodged by the defacto complainant.

4. With the above directions, this criminal original petition is disposed of.

NSL

18-06-2026



To

1. The Inspector of Police,
B-5, Kitchipalayam Police Station, Salem City.

2. The Public Prosecutor, High Court of Madras.

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C.KUMARAPPAN, J.

NSL

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