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IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 10-11-2026

CORAM

THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE N.RAMESH

CRL OP No. 30079 of 2026

CNR: {HCMA012375962026}

Ravi
S/o Shanmugam,
No.456, Main Road,
Mangalam Village,
Tiruvannamalai District.

Case QR

..Petitioner(s)

Vs

The State Rep by the Inspector of Police
Tiruvannamalai All Women Police Station
(AWPS),
Tiruvannamalai District.
Crime no.41 of 2026.

..Respondent(s)

PRAYER : Criminal Original Petition filed under Section 483 of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, to enlarge the petitioner on bail in Crime No.41 of 2026 pending investigation on the file of the respondent and thus render justice.

For Petitioner(s): Mr.Sathiyaraj E.

For Respondent(s): Mr.M.M.I. Khaleel
Government Advocate (Crl.Side)

ORDER

The petitioner, who was arrested and remanded to judicial custody on 24.07.2026 for the alleged offence under Section 75(l)(i) r/w 75(2) of BNS Act and section 9(f), 9(m) r/w 10 of POCSO Act in Crime No. 41 of 2026 on the file on the file of the respondent police, seeks bail.

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2. The case of the prosecution is that the de facto complainant is the Block Educational Officer. On 23.07.2026, at about 12.30 p.m., while the Block Educational Officer was attending a training session at Tiruvannamalai, a social worker, namely Ashok, contacted her over the phone and informed her that the Supervisor of Childline had raised an issue regarding the Panchayat Union Primary School at Vedanthavadi and reported that the Headmaster of the said school was sexually harassing the children. Hence, on 23.07.2026, at about 11.30 a.m., the BEO and the Supervisor visited the said school and conducted an awareness programme among the students. During the enquiry, 13 girl students stated that Accused- 1 and 2 had behaved inappropriately with them. Further, 12 students informed that Accused-l /Headmaster had touched the girl students inappropriately on 02.04.2026, 22.06.2026 and 21.07.2026. Hence, the case.

3. The learned counsel for the petitioner submitted that this is the second bail application filed by the petitioner. He further submitted that the allegations against the petitioner are false and that the petitioner has been in judicial custody since 24.07.2026. He further submitted that the investigation has been completed and the charge sheet has been filed. Hence, he prays to grant bail to the petitioner.

4. The learned Government Advocate (Crl.Side) appearing for the

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respondent police reiterated the prosecution case and submitted that, out of the 13 victim children, all the victims had given statements implicating the petitioner. He further submitted that the statements were recorded under Section 183 of the BNSS. Hence, he opposed the grant of bail to the Petitioner.

5. I have given my anxious consideration to the submissions made by the learned counsel on either side and perused the materials available on record.

6. It is a case under the POCSO Act. The petitioner is working as a Headmaster of a Government School. It is submitted that 13 victim children have given statements against the petitioner under Section 183 of the BNSS. I have gone through the statements of the victim children, wherein allegations of inappropriate touching have been made against the petitioner. The investigation has been completed and the charge sheet has been filed and yet to be taken on file. Considering the nature of the allegation against the petitioner, the position held by the petitioner as the Headmaster of the School, the fact that the petitioner was arrested on 24.07.2026 and the period of incarceration already undergone, this Court is inclined to enlarge the petitioner on bail subject to certain conditions.

7. Accordingly, the petitioner is ordered to be released on bail on his executing a bond for a sum of **Rs.25,000/- (Rupees Twenty Five Thousand**

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only) with **two sureties each**, for a like sum to the satisfaction of the **learned Special Court for Exclusive Trial of Cases under POCSO Act, Tiruvannamalai,** and on further conditions that:

[a] the sureties shall affix their photographs and Left Thumb Impression in the Application for Surety ship [Judicial Form No.46 annexed to 'The Criminal Rules of Practice, 2019']. The learned Magistrate shall obtain a copy of any one of the identity proofs to ensure their identity;

[b] the petitioner shall report before the Trial Court daily at 10.30 a.m., until further orders;

[c] the petitioner shall not, either directly or indirectly, influence, intimidate or threaten the victim children or any prosecution witnesses. In the event of any complaint regarding violation of this condition, the bail granted to the petitioner shall stand automatically cancelled;

[d] The Trial Court is directed to expedite the process of examination of witness;

[e] the petitioner shall not abscond either during investigation or trial;

[f] the petitioner shall not tamper with the evidence or witness either during investigation or trial;

[g] On breach of any of the aforementioned conditions, the learned Magistrate/Trial Court is entitled to pass appropriate orders against the petitioner in accordance with law as if the aforementioned conditions have been imposed and the petitioner released on bail by the learned Magistrate/Trial Court himself as laid down by the Hon'ble

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Supreme Court in **P.K.Shaji vs. State of Kerala [(2005)13 SCC 283];**

[h] If the accused thereafter absconds, a fresh FIR can be registered under Section 269 of B.N.S.

10-11-2026

DRL

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 the official website of this Court will be watermarked and will also have a QR code.

To

1.The Special Court for Exclusive Trial of Cases under POCSO Act, Tiruvannamalai.

2. The Inspector of Police
Tiruvannamalai All Women Police Station (AWPS),
Tiruvannamalai District.

3.The Superintendent, Central Prison,
Vellore.

4.The Public Prosecutor,
High Court, Madras.

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N.RAMESH, J.

DRL

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