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IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 23-10-2026

CORAM

THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE N.RAMESH

CRL OP No. 30911 of 2026

CNR: {HCMA012563542026}

Babu
S/o Sakul Ameedhu,
No.6/89, Makkan Street,
Lappai Pettai,
Mangadu, Arcot Taluk,
Ranipet District.

..Petitioner(s)

Vs

State Represented By, The Inspector of Police
Arcot Taluk Police Station,
Ranipet District.
Crime No. 208/2026

..Respondent(s)

PRAYER : Criminal Original Petition filed under Section 482 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, Act, 2023, praying to enlarge the petitioner on bail in the event of his arrest in Crime No 208/2026 pending investigation on the file of the respondent and thus render justice.

For Petitioner(s): E. Kannadasan

For Respondent(s): Mr.R.Rajasekaran, Govt.Advocate (Crl.Side)

ORDER

The petitioner apprehends arrest for the alleged offences under Sections 16, 17, 18 of the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976, in Crime No.208 of 2026 the file of the respondent police seeks anticipatory bail.

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2. The case of the prosecution is that on 01.10.2026, the defacto complainant received information that some persons were allegedly kept as bonded labourers at the petitioner's sheep farm situated at Mangadu Village. Upon visiting the farm, the defacto complainant found three persons grazing sheep. Hence, the complaint.

3. The learned counsel for the petitioner submitted that the petitioner is innocent, has not committed any of the alleged offences, and has been falsely implicated in this case. He further submitted that the alleged victims appeared in person before the District Collector and submitted a representation stating that they were working voluntarily and not as bonded labourers. Hence, he prays to grant anticipatory bail to the petitioner.

4. The learned Government Advocate (Criminal Side) appearing for the respondent police reiterated the case of the prosecution and, on instructions, submitted that no previous case is pending against the petitioner. However, he opposed to grant anticipatory bail to the petitioner

5. Considering the nature of the allegation, the fact that the alleged victims appeared in person before the District Collector and submitted a representation stating that they were working voluntarily and not as bonded labourers, and taking into account that there are no adverse antecedents against

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the petitioner, this Court is inclined to grant anticipatory bail to the petitioner, subject to certain conditions.

6. Accordingly, the petitioner is ordered to be released on anticipatory bail in the event of arrest or on his appearance, within a period of fifteen (15) days from the date on which the order copy is made ready, before the **learned Judicial Magistrate, Arcot,** on condition that **the petitioner shall execute a bond for a sum of Rs.20,000/- (Rupees Twenty Thousand only),** with **two sureties** each for a like sum to the satisfaction of the learned Magistrate concerned, and on further conditions:

(a) If the petitioner fails to surrender before the concerned Magistrate within a period of fifteen (15) days from the date of receipt of a copy of this order, this order shall stand automatically cancelled;

(b) 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 identify proofs to ensure their identity;

(c) The petitioner shall report before the respondent Police daily at 10:30 A.M., for a period of two weeks, and thereafter, as and when required for interrogation;

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N.RAMESH, J.

MPA

(d) On breach of any of the aforesaid conditions, the learned Magistrate/Trial Court is entitled to take appropriate actions against the petitioner in accordance with law as if the conditions have been imposed and the petitioner is released on anticipatory bail by the learned Magistrate/Trial Court himself as laid down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in ***P.K.Shaji v. State of Kerala [(2005) AIR SCW 5560];***

(e) If the petitioner thereafter abscond, a fresh FIR can be registered under Section 269 of BNS Act.

23-10-2026

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

MPA

To

1. The Judicial Magistrate, Arcot.

2. The Inspector of Police
Arcot Taluk Police Station,
Ranipet District.
Crime No. 208/2026

3. The Public Prosecutor, High Court of Madras.

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