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IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 30.10.2026

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THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE N.RAMESH

CRL.O.P.No.31402 of 2026

CNR: {HCMA012594192026}

Muruganantham

..Petitioner

Vs

State Represented By, The Inspector of Police,
Sankiri Police Station, Salem District.
Crime No.455 of 2026.

..Respondent

PRAYER: To enlarge the petitioners on Anticipatory Bail in the event of his arrest pending investigation in Crime No.455 of 2026 on the file of the respondent and thus render justice.

For Petitioner : Mr.T.Muruganantham

For Respondent : Mr.R.Rajasekaran,
Counsel for Government of Tamil Nadu (Crl.side)

ORDER

The petitioner has filed this application seeking anticipatory bail apprehending arrest at the hands of the respondent police for the alleged offences under Sections 4(1)(a) and 4(1)(c) of the Tamil Nadu Prohibition Act in Crime No.455 of 2026 on the file of the respondent police.

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2. The case of the prosecution is that the co-accused, namely Arunkumar (A1), was intercepted by the respondent police and found in illegal possession of 10 bottles of 'Black Pearl Brandy'. Based on his confession statement, it is alleged that he and the petitioner (A2) jointly purchased the said liquor bottles from a retail outlet with the intent to sell the same at a higher price for illegal profit. Hence the case.

3. The learned counsel appearing for the petitioner submits that the petitioner is innocent and he has been falsely implicated in the present case solely based on the self-serving confession statement of the co-accused. He further submits that the petitioner has no previous cases against him and is ready to abide by any stringent conditions that may be imposed by this Court.

4. The learned Government Advocate (Criminal Side) opposed the grant of anticipatory bail to the petitioner. He submitted that the petitioner along with the co-accused indulged in the illicit sale of liquor for premium prices. However, he admitted that the petitioner has no adverse antecedents recorded against him.

5. This Court has carefully considered the rival submissions and perused the case diary.

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6. Considering the facts and circumstances of the case, the nature of the offence, and the fact that the petitioner has no previous cases of a similar or any other nature, this Court is inclined to grant the relief of anticipatory bail to the petitioner, however, by imposing stringent conditions to ensure his appearance and cooperation with the investigation.

7. Accordingly, the petitioner is ordered to be released on 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 No.1, Sankiri,** 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;

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(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

(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.

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To

1. The Judicial Magistrate No.1, Sankiri.

2. The Inspector of Police,
   Sankiri Police Station, Salem District.

3. The Public Prosecutor,
   Madras High Court.

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N.RAMESH, J.

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