



Crl.R.C.(MD)No.288 of 2023

BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED: 08.04.2026

CORAM

THE HONOURABLE MRS.JUSTICE L.VICTORIA GOWRI

Crl.R.C.(MD)No.288 of 2023

P.Mahakrishnan

... Petitioner/Appellant/
Accused

Vs.

1.Velmurugan

... Respondent/Respondent/
Complainant

2.The State of Tamil Nadu,
Rep.by The Public Prosecutor,
Nagercoil.

... Respondent/Respondent

PRAYER : Criminal Revision Case filed under Section 397 r/w 401 B.N.S.S., to call for the records and set aside the order in Crl.A.No.186 of 2017 dated 10.02.2023 on the file of the Additional Sessions Court (Fast Track), Nagercoil confirming the order passed in S.T.C.No.1253 of 2015 dated 14.12.2017 on the file of the Judicial Magistrate, Boothapandi.

For Petitioner : Mr.S.C.Herold Singh

For R1 : Mr.P.T.Ramesh Raja

For R2 : Mr.M.Sakthi Kumar
Government Advocate(Crl.side)



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Magistrate, Boothapandi , as S.T.C.No.1253 of 2015. The learned Trial Court convicted the petitioner on 14.12.2017, for the offence under Section 138 of Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881 and sentenced him to undergo simple imprisonment for six months and to pay the cheque amount of Rs.5,00,000/- as compensation to the respondent herein, in default, to undergo further simple imprisonment for a period of three months. Challenging the above said conviction and sentence, the petitioner has filed an appeal in Crl.A.No.186 of 2017 on the file of the Additional Sessions Court (Fast Track), Nagercoil and the Additional Sessions Court (Fast Track), Nagercoil, by confirming the conviction and sentence, dismissed the appeal. Being dissatisfied with the dismissal of the appeal, the petitioner has preferred the present Criminal Revision Case.

4. The matter was referred to the National Lok Adalat before the High Court Legal Services Committee, Madurai and came before the National Lok Adalat on 14.03.2026 and the same has been settled wherein the revision petitioner had paid an amount of Rs.5,00,000/- to the respondent. The scanned copy of the award of the National Lok Adalat is as follows:-



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HIGH COURT LEGAL SERVICES COMMITTEE, MADURAI
Madurai Bench of Madurai High Court, Madurai - 625023

Saturday the 14th day of March 2023
NATIONAL LOK ADALAT AWARD
(Chapter VI and rule 21 of Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987)

Presided Over by
The Honourable Mr Justice **AR.RAMALINGAM** (Retd.)

and

Members

Mr.A.Subramanian, District Judge(Retired) , Mr.J.Alaguram Jothi, Advocate

Crl.R.C(MD) No.288 of 2023
against Crl.A.No.186 of 2017 on the file of the Additional Sessions Court(Fast Track), Nagercoil

P.Mahakrishnan

Versus

...Petitioner

1.Velmurugan

2.The State of Tamil nadu,
Rep by the Public Prosecutor,
Nagercoil.

..Respondents

This case came up for settlement before the Lok Adalat. Both the parties present. The counsel for the petitioner Mr.S.C.Herold Singh and the counsel for the first respondent Mr.P.T.Ramesh Raja, are present. After mutual discussion, negotiation, mediation and conciliation between both parties and with the assistance of the Bench, both sides consented for settlement.

AWARD

Both parties filed a joint memo dated 14.03.2023 and the same is recorded. In terms of the said joint memo, the matter is referred back to the concerned Court for passing suitable orders.

2.The matter is posted before the regular Court for setting aside the conviction and sentence.

Mr.S.C.Herold Singh

[Signature]
14/3/23
Counsel for the Petitioner

[Signature]
P.Mahakrishnan



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Mr. P.T. Ramesh Raja

P. Subramanian
Counsel for the 1st respondent

[Signature]
Mr. P.T. Ramesh Raja



This Lok Adalat award is passed in terms of the above settlement.

The Original of the award shall be placed in the court record and copy of the award, kept with High Court Legal Services Committee and one copy each is furnished to both parties free of cost.

In agreement of the above, both parties and their counsel have affixed their signatures/ thumb impressions in presence of the Lok Adalat Bench admitting the terms and today conditions and accordingly the award is passed.

[Signature]
JUDGE

[Signature]
MEMBER

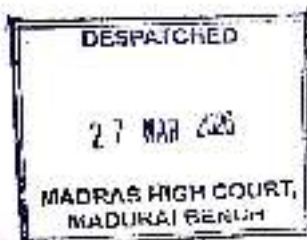
[Signature]
MEMBER

To: The Parties/Advocate concerned
Copy To

1. The the Additional Sessions Court(Fast Track), Nagercoil
2. The Judicial Magistrate, Boothapandi
3. The Officer in Charge, High Court Legal Services Committee, Madurai.
4. The Section Officer, ~~4-8~~ Section, Madurai Bench of Madras High Court, Madurai.

Criminal Records.

Typed By
Na
PA To The Hon'ble Judges



[Signature]
Assistant Registrar



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5. Heard both sides and carefully perused the materials available on record.

6. The Hon'ble Supreme Court in *Ramgopal and another v. State of Madhya Pradesh*¹, had held that this Court, in exercise of inherent powers, can accept the compromise, even in the case of non-compoundable offences, if the parties have entered into a compromise and the dispute is private in nature.

7. Though the petitioner is the accused of the offence under Section 138 of Negotiable Instruments Act, the dispute is private in nature. Hence, this Court is inclined to accept the compromise and set aside the order of conviction and sentence imposed by the Courts below.

8. Accordingly, the award of National Lok Adalat dated 14.03.2026, is taken on file. The Criminal Revision Case is **allowed**. The conviction and sentence imposed upon the petitioner vide judgment dated 10.02.2023 in Crl.A.No.186 of 2017 on the file of the Additional

¹ (2022) 14 SCC 531



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Sessions Court (Fast Track), Nagercoil, confirming the judgment in S.T.C.No.1253 of 2015 on the file of Judicial Magistrate, Boothapandi, dated 14.12.2017, is set aside and the petitioner is acquitted of the offence under Section 138 of Negotiable Instruments Act.

08.04.2026

NCC : Yes / No
Index : Yes / No
Internet : Yes / No
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To

- 1.The Additional Sessions Court (Fast Track),
Nagercoil.
- 2.The Judicial Magistrate,
Boothapandi.
- 3.The Public Prosecutor,
Nagercoil.
- 4.The Additional Public Prosecutor,
Madurai Bench of Madras High Court,
Madurai.



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L.VICTORIA GOWRI ,J.

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Order made in
CrI.R.C.(MD)No.288 of 2023

Dated: 08.04.2026