WEB COPY

BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED: 03-11-2026

CORAM

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE M. NIRMAL KUMAR

AND

THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE N.GUNASEKARAN

HCP(MD) No. 1261 of 2026

CNR:{HCMD011385982026}

Case QR

Ramachandran
S/o.Baskar,
Santhanamariamman Kovil 1st Street,
Vallam,
Shenkottai Taluk,
Tenkasi District.
(Now confining at Palayamkottai Central Prison)

..Petitioner(s)

Vs

1. The State of Tamilnadu
   Rep by,
   The Additional Chief Secretary to Govt,
   Home, Prohibition and Excise Dept,
   Fort St.George,
   Chennai - 9.

2. The District Collector and District Magistrate
   O/o.The District Collector and District
   Magistrate,
   Tenkasi District.

3. The Superintendent of Prison
   Palayamkottai Central Prison,
   Tirunelveli District.

..Respondent(s)

PRAYER: H2-GO.To call for the entire records connected with the detention order of the respondent No.2 in M.H.S.Confdl No.79/2026 dated 24.07.2026 and quash the same and direct the respondents to

https://www.mhc.tn.gov.in/judis

WEB COPY

produce the body or person of the detenu by name Ramachandran, son of Baskar, aged about 30 years now detained as Goonda at Palayamkottai Central Prison, before this Court and set him at liberty forthwith.

For Petitioner(s) :Dr.R.ALAGUMANI

For Respondent(s) :M/s.G.Karuppasamy Pandian
Additional Public Prosecutor

ORDER

(Order of the Court was made by N. GUNASEKARAN J.)

The petitioner is the detenue, viz., Ramachandran, son of Baskar, aged about 30 years. The detenu has been detained by the second respondent pursuant to the detention order passed in Detention order in M.H.S.Confdl No.79/2026 dated 24.07.2026 , branding him as a “Goonda” as contemplated under Section 2(f) of the Tamil Nadu Act 14 of 1982. The said order of detention is under challenge in the present Habeas Corpus Petition.

2. Though several grounds have been raised by the petitioner assailing the impugned order of detention, during the course of hearing, the learned counsel for the petitioner confined his submissions to the ground that the subjective satisfaction arrived at by the detaining authority, without disclosing the facts relating to the similar case relied upon and without furnishing the supporting materials, is merely a *ipse*

https://www.mhc.tn.gov.in/judis

WEB COPY

dixit. It is further contended that the detenu had not filed any application for bail and the particulars of the similar case furnished by the detaining authority are not similar in nature to the case on hand. Therefore, there was no proper application of mind on the part of the detaining authority while passing the impugned order of detention. Hence, the learned counsel for the petitioner prayed for setting aside the impugned detention order.

3. Heard the learned counsel for the petitioner and the learned Additional Public Prosecutor appearing for the respondents and perused the materials available on record.

4. The issue raised in the present Habeas Corpus Petition is squarely covered by the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in ***Alagu v. State of Tamil Nadu,*** reported in ***2026 SCC OnLine SC 976 : (2026) SCC 976,*** wherein it has been held that there must be cogent material on record on the basis of which a reasonable satisfaction could be arrived at by the detaining authority that the detenu is likely to be released on bail. In the absence of such cogent material, the subjective satisfaction arrived at by the detaining authority that the detenu is likely to be released on bail cannot be sustained. In the present case, having

https://www.mhc.tn.gov.in/judis

WEB COPY

regard to the principles laid down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court, we are of the view that there was no cogent material before the detaining authority on the basis of which such satisfaction could have been arrived at. Therefore, the subjective satisfaction recorded by the detaining authority suffers from non-application of mind and cannot be sustained.

5. In view of the law laid down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the aforesaid decision, we are inclined to interfere with the impugned order of detention. Accordingly, the Habeas Corpus Petition is allowed and the order of detention passed by the second respondent in Detention order in M.H.S.Confdl No.79/2026 dated 24.07.2026 is hereby set aside. Consequently, the detenu, namely, Ramachandran, son of Baskar, aged about 30 years, who is presently detained at the Central Prison, Palayamkottai is directed to be released forthwith, unless his detention is required in connection with any other case.

(M.N.K.,J.) **(N.G.N.,J.)**
03-11-2026

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

AAV

https://www.mhc.tn.gov.in/judis

WEB COPY

To

1. The Additional Chief Secretary to Govt
   Home, Prohibition and Excise Dept
   Fort St.George
   Chennai - 9

2. The District Collector and District Magistrate
   O/o.The District Collector and District Magistrate
   Tenkasi District

3. The Superintendent of Prison
   Palayamkottai Central Prison
   Tirunelveli District

4. The Additional Public Prosecutor
   Madurai Bench of Madras High Court
   Madurai

https://www.mhc.tn.gov.in/judis

WEB COPY

M.NIRMAL KUMAR, J.
AND
N.GUNASEKARAN, J.
AAV

HCP(MD) No. 1261 of 2026

03-11-2026

https://www.mhc.tn.gov.in/judis