
Jayalakshmi Vs State

Habeas Corpus Petition No. 1335 of 2005

Court: Madras High Court

Date of Decision: March 20, 2006

Hon'ble Judges: P. Sathasivam, J; J.A.K. Sampathkumar, J

Bench: Division Bench

Advocate: S. Swamidoss Manokaran, for the Appellant; Abudhukumar Rajarathinam, Government Advocate, for the Respondent

Final Decision: Allowed

Judgement

@JUDGMENTTAG-ORDER

P. Sathasivam, J.

The petitioner, who is the wife of the detenu by name Jayaraj, son of Devasagayam, who was detained as a "Goonda"

as contemplated under the Tamil Nadu Prevention of Dangerous Activities of Bootleggers, Drug Offenders, Forest Offenders, Goondas, Immoral

Traffic Offenders, Slum Grabbers and Video Pirates Act, 1982 (Tamil Nadu Act 14 of 1982), by the impugned detention order dated

03.12.2005, challenges the same in this Petition.

2. Heard learned counsel for the petitioner as well as learned Government Advocate for the respondents.

3. At the foremost, learned counsel for the petitioner submitted that there is enormous delay in disposal of the representation of the detenu, which

vitiates the ultimate order of detention. With reference to the above claim, learned Government Advocate has placed the details, which show that

the representation of the detenu dated 14.12.2005 was received by the Government on 16.12.2005 and remarks were called for on 19.12.2005.

The said representation was received by the Collectorate on 21.12.2005 and the parawar remarks were called for from the Sponsoring authority

on the same date i.e. on 21.12.2005 and the remarks were received from the sponsoring authority on 28.12.2005 and the report was sent to the

Government on the same date i.e. on 28.12.2005. The remarks were received by the Government on 30.12.2005. Thereafter, the File was

submitted on 02.01.2006 and the same was dealt with by the Under Secretary and Deputy Secretary on the same date i.e. on 02.01.2006 and

finally, the Minister for Prohibition and Excise passed orders on 03.01.2006. The rejection letter was prepared on 04.01.2006 and the same was

sent to the detenu on 05.1.2006 and served to him on 06.01.2006. As rightly pointed out by the learned counsel for the petitioner, though the

parawar remarks were called for from the sponsoring authority on 21.12.2005, the remarks were received from the sponsoring authority by the

Collectorate only on 28.12.2005 and there is no explanation at all for sending the remarks to the Collectorate belatedly. In the absence of any

explanation by the person concerned even after excluding the intervening holidays, we are of the view that the time taken for sending the remarks is

on the higher side and the said delay has prejudiced the detenu in disposal of his representation. On this ground, we quash the impugned order of

detention.

4. Accordingly, the Habeas Corpus Petition is allowed and the impugned order of detention is set aside. The detenu is directed to be set at liberty

forthwith from the custody unless he is required in some other case or cause.