

**IN THE COURT OF THE PRINCIPAL DISTRICT & SESSIONS JUDGE,
COIMBATORE.**

**Present: Tmt. J. SRIDEVI, B.Sc., M.L., P.G.D.F.Sc.,
PRINCIPAL DISTRICT & SESSIONS JUDGE, COIMBATORE**

Monday, this the 13th day of July, 2026

**CRIMINAL MISCELLANEOUS PETITION Nos.2164/2026, 2169/2026 and
2258/2026**

Mathesh (Age 46 years)
C/o. Karuppusamy.

... Petitioner in C.M.P.No.2164/2026 / A-2

Ponraj (Age 42 years)
S/o. Pandi.

... Petitioner in C.M.P.No.2169/2026 / A-1

Rameshkumar, (Age 44 years)
S/o. Duraisamy.

... Petitioner in C.M.P.No.2258/2026 / A-3

/vs/

State, Rep. by
through the Inspector of Police,
Annur Police Station,
Crime No.354/2026.

Offences:u/s.24(1) of COTPA r/w 123 of BNS.

Through the Public Prosecutor, Coimbatore.

... Respondent

(The District Munsif-cum- Judicial Magistrate Court, Annur.)

These three petitions filed on behalf of the petitioner in the respective petitions to release them on bail u/s.483 of BNSS.

These three petitions are coming on this day for final hearing before this Court in the presence of **Tvl. S.S.Balakrishnan and A. Nandhakumar**, Advocates for the Petitioner in C.M.P.No.2164/2026 / A-2 and **Tvl. T.Muthumalaisivakumar, R.Prakash, K. Chelladurai, S.Aasathkumar, P. Ajith and M. Selvaganapathi**, Advocates for the petitioner in C.M.P.No.2169/2026 and 2258/2026 / A-1 and A-3 and **Thiru. N. Manoj Kumar, Public Prosecutor**, represented for State, upon perusing the petition submitted and upon hearing both side arguments, this Court pronounced the following:-

COMMON ORDER

Heard both side.

The petitioner in the respective petitions are the accused in Crime No.354/2026 of Annur Police Station, for the alleged offence u/s.24(1) of COTPA r/w 123 of BNS, they have filed these three petitions separately, seeking grant of bail.

2. The case of the prosecution is that the accused were found in illegal possession of 1453 kgs of banned tobacco products. Hence, the present case.

3. The learned counsel for the petitioner in C.M.P.No.2164/2026 submitted that this petitioner is the driver by profession. On the date of occurrence, he was engaged to drive a vehicle which is stated to be used for transporting house hold articles from Bangalore to Coimbatore. The petitioner has no knowledge about the materials alleged to be transported and there is no specific allegation against the petitioner. The learned counsel has further submitted that the petitioner is innocent and he has been falsely implicated in this case and he never indulged in any such activities as alleged and he is ready to abide any condition and he is in judicial custody for the past 20 days and prays to enlarge the petitioner on bail.

4. The learned counsel for the petitioner in C.M.P.No.2169/2026 and C.M.P.No.2258/2026 submitted that the petitioner in C.M.P.No.2258/2026 is a load man and he has no knowledge about the material allegedly transported. The learned counsel has further submitted that the petitioner in the respective petitions is innocent and they have been falsely implicated in this case and they never indulged in any such activities as alleged and they are ready to abide any condition and they are in judicial custody for the past 20 days and prayed to enlarge the petitioner in the respective petitions on bail.

5. Opposing to grant bail to the petitioner in the respective petitions, the learned Public Prosecutor submitted that, there are three accused in this case. **The petitioner in C.M.P.No.2164/2026 is arrayed as A-3. The petitioner in C.M.P.No.2169/2026 is arrayed as A-1. The petitioner in C.M.P.No.2258/2026 is arrayed as A-2.** In this case, when the respondent police engaged in vehicle checking, they have intercepted a vehicle and seized 1453 kgs of banned tobacco products. **Except the present case, the petitioner in C.M.P.No.2169/2026 namely Ponraj is involved in 3 other cases and all the cases are similar in nature. No previous case is reported against the petitioner in C.M.P.No.2164/2026 [Mathesh] and C.M.P.No.2258/2026 [Ramesh Kumar].** Investigation is still pending.

6. This Court has considered the submissions and perused the records. The petitioner in the respective petitions are arrayed as accused in Crime No.354/2026 of Annur Police Station, for the alleged offence u/s.24(1) of COTPA r/w 123 of BNS. As per the prosecution case, the accused in this case illegally transported 1453 kgs of banned tobacco products. Though, the learned counsel for the petitioner in the respective petitions contended that the petitioner in the respective petitions have not committed any offence as alleged and they never indulged in any such activities as alleged, they have not disclosed anything in their petitions regarding the quantum of contraband involved in this case. The learned Public Prosecutor would argue that in this case, the respondent police seized huge quantum of contraband i.e., 1453 kgs from the accused. Further the petitioner in C.M.P.No.2169/2026 is involved in three other cases and all the cases are similar in nature. No previous case is reported against the petitioner in C.M.P.No.2164/2026 and 2258/2026.

7. Upon considering the submissions, considering the nature of offence, though no previous case is attributed against the petitioner in C.M.P.No.2164/2026 and 2258/2026, having regard to the quantum of contraband seized in this case, having regard to the bad antecedents of the petitioner in C.M.P.No.2169/2026 namely Ponraj, as investigation is still pending, this Court is not inclined to grant bail to the petitioner in the respective petitions.

Hence, three petitions are dismissed.

This common order is dictated to steno-typist, typed by her, corrected and pronounced by me on this 13th day of July, 2026.

PRINCIPAL DISTRICT & SESSIONS JUDGE,
COIMBATORE.

CC to :

1. The District Munsif-cum-Judicial Magistrate Court, Annur.
2. The Public Prosecutor, Coimbatore.
3. The Inspector of Police, Annur Police Station,
4. Counsel for the Petitioner in the respective petitions / Accused.