

Tamil Nadu, Ariyalur District Vikramangalam P.S Cr.No.133/08 U/s 380(2)

IPC. (Investigation by Idol Wing-CID)

Eight Antique metal idols from one Prahadheeswarar temple at Sree Puranthan Village in Ariyalur District were found stolen on 18.08.2008 at 15.00 hrs. In this regard, on the complaint of Tr.Sivakumar, Executive Officer, HR&CE, of the said temple, a case in Vikramangalam P.S. Cr. No.133/08 U/s 380(2) IPC was registered.

On 24.08.2008, at 20.00 hrs, One Rathainam S/o Rasu Padayatchi, Udyarpalayam and Sivakumar S/o Sivalingam, Udayarpalayam were arrested at Wallajah road, Triplicane, Chennai and they confessed that they committed theft of eight Antique, Idols from the said Prahadheeswarar Temple at Sree Puranthan Village in Ariyalur Dist three years ago. They also confessed that they committed the theft on the direction of one Sanjivie Asokan and with the assistance of Kaliaperumal, Pichaimani, Murugan. All the eight idols were purchased and smuggled out to USA by the said merchant Sanjive Asokan, S/o T.K.Asokan, Plot No:91, Narayan Arihant Towers, 77.Wallajah road, Triplicane, Chennai.

Further, the investigation of the cited case was transferred to Idol Wing-CID in Rc.No.212588/Crime.IV(2)/2008 dt.03.11.2008 of DGP, Tamil Nadu, Chennai and accordingly DSP, Idol Wing-CID took up further investigation of this case.

Subsequently on 08.12.2008, the co-accused Kaliaperumal was arrested and remanded. On 24.03.2009, the main accused Sanjive Asokan who purchased and illegally exported the said 8 idols and his export agent Packia Kumar were arrested at Cochin and remanded before the concerned court, Judicial Magistrate at Jeyamkondam.

Investigation reveals that Sanjive Asokan presented all the said eight antique idols before the Assistant Director, Office of the Handicraft development commissioner, Ministry of Textiles, Shastri Bhavan, Chennai through his agent Packia Kumar's export company Ever Star International Services. Ever time, part of the stole antique idols were mingled with New metal idols. (Like 2 or 3 stolen idols with 4 or 5 new metal idols) and presented the export invoice with a false affidavit that all the idols in the consignment were recently manufactured. After obtaining the Handicraft certificate, that the said idols were Artistic Handicraft Products only, the said idols were produced at the Customs with those certificate on various dates the he made successfully the illicit export of stolen Antique idols to one Nimbus import export inc, No.2, Cross field Avenue, Suite 105, West Nyack, New York-10994, USA..

Sanjive Asokan identified the Photocopy of the eight stolen idols furnished by the Executive Officer, Hindu Religious, Charitable Endowment board, Govt. of Tamil Nadu.

It has been proved from the facts of the above said documents and from the confessions made by all accused, that the eight antique metal idols of Prahadheeswarar temple of Sree Puranthan Village were stolen by Rathinam, Kaliaperumal, Sivakumar, Pichaimani, and Murugan and sold out to Sanjive Asokan and he made Illicit exports of the said eight Antique stolen idols to one Nimbus import, export inc, New York, USA.

IDOL THEFT OFFENDERS BOOKED UNDER GOONDAS ACT :

Sanjive Asokan, a international idols smuggler was detained under TN Act 14 of 1982 on 06.04.09 by the order of Ariyalur district Collector in C.No.10/09 on 06.04.09. Nevertheless a idols offender was booked under Goondas Act in India.