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BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED: 23.03.2015

CORAM

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE C.T.SELVAM

Crl.O.P.Nos.5094, 5099, 5103, 5108, 5109,
5112, 5118, 5127, 5139 and 5147 of 2015

S.RAJALINGAM .. Petitioner in CRL OP(MD). 5094/ 2015

M.MAHADEVAN
SUBBULAKSHMI ..Petitioners 1 & 2 in CRL OP(MD). 5099/ 2015

R.RUKUMANI .. Petitioner in CRL OP(MD). 5103/ 2015
MUTHULAKSHMI .. Petitioner in CRL OP(MD). 5108/ 2015
P.SATHYA .. Petitioner in CRL OP(MD). 5109/ 2015
KISHORE CHAND .. Petitioner in CRL OP(MD). 5112/ 2015
S.ANTHONIAMMAL .. Petitioner in CRL OP(MD). 5118/ 2015
VELUTHEVAR .. Petitioner in CRL OP(MD). 5127/ 2015
SHEIK MADHAR .. Petitioner in CRL OP(MD). 5139/ 2015
KANNAN .. Petitioner in CRL OP(MD). 5147/ 2015

- Vs. -

STATE REP.BY

1 THE SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE,
TIRUNELVELI.

2 THE INSPECTOR OF POLICE,
RADHAPURAM POLICE STATION,
TIRUNELVELI DIST.

.. Respondents in CRL OP(MD). 5094/ 2015

THE INSPECTOR OF POLICE,
THIRUPPARANKUNDRAM POLICE STATION,
MADURAI.

.. Respondent in CRL OP(MD). 5099/ 2015

1 THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE,
MADURAI DISTRICT, MADURAI.

2 THE INSPECTOR OF POLICE,
D2-SELLUR POLICE STATION,
MADURAI DISTRICT, MADURAI.

..Respondents in CRL OP(MD). 5103/ 2015

1 THE SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE,
TRICHY DISTRICT,TRICHY.

2 THE INSPECTOR OF POLICE,
MUSIRI POLICE STATION,
TRICHY DISTRICT.

.. Respondents in CRL OP(MD). 5108/ 2015

1 THE SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE,
DINDIGUL DISTRICT, DINDIGUL.



2 THE INSPECTOR OF POLICE,
ALL WOMEN POLICE STATION,
DINDIGUL, DINDIGUL DISTRICT. .. Respondents in CRL OP(MD). 5109/ 2015

1 THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE,
C.O.P.OFFICE, TVS TOLLGATE,
TRICHY, TRICHY DISTRICT.

2 THE INSPECTOR OF POLICE,
CRIME BRANCH, FORT POLICE STATION,
TRICHY, TRICHY DISTRICT.

3 THE INSPECTOR OF POLICE,
LAW AND ORDER, FORT POLICE STATION,
TRICHY, TRICHY DISTRICT. .. Respondents in CRL OP(MD). 5112/2015

1 THE DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE,
KOVILPATTI-628 502, TUTICORIN DIST.

2 THE INSPECTOR OF POLICE,
KOVILPATTI WEST CIRCLE,
KOVILPATTI-628 502, TUTICORIN DIST.

3 S.MANOCHARAN

4 S.FRANCISCA MARY ..Respondents in CRL OP(MD). 5118/ 2015

1 THE SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE,
SIVAGANGAI DISTRICT, SIVAGANGAI.

2 THE DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE,
RAMNAGAR, DEVAKOTTAI, SIVAGANGAI DIST.

3 THE INSPECTOR OF POLICE,
TALUK POLICE STATION, DEVAKOTTAI,
SIVAGANGAI DIST. ..Respondents in CRL OP(MD). 5127/ 2015

1 THE SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE,
SIVAGANGAI DISTRICT, SIVAGANGAI

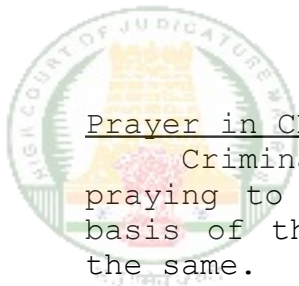
2 THE SUB INSPECTOR OF POLICE,
KALLAL POLICE STATION,
SIVAGANGAI DISTRICT ..Respondents in CRL OP(MD). 5139/ 2015

STATE REP.BY

1 THE SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE,
MADURAI DISTRICT, MADURAI.

STATE REP.BY

2 THE INSPECTOR OF POLICE,
MELUR POLICE STATION, MELUR TALUK,
MADURAI DISTRICT. .. Respondent(s) in CRL OP(MD). 5147/ 2015



Prayer in CRL OP(MD). 5094/ 2015 :

Criminal Original Petitions are filed under section 482 of Cr.PC praying to direct the 2nd respondent herein to register the FIR on the basis of the petitioner complaint dated 26.02.2015 and investigate into the same.

Prayer in CRL OP(MD). 5099/ 2015 :

Criminal Original Petitions are filed under section 482 of Cr.PC praying to register complaint against the said lakshmikantham, Hariharan, Balamurugan and Jeyaprabhavathi on the basis of the petitioners complaint dated 02/02/2015.

Prayer in CRL OP(MD). 5103/ 2015 :

Criminal Original Petitions are filed under section 482 of Cr.PC praying to direct the 1st respondent to instruct the 2nd respondent to register the case based on the complaint given by the petitioner on 23.12.2014 and investigate the same and file a final report within the period specified by this Honourable Court.

Prayer in CRL OP(MD). 5108/ 2015 :

Criminal Original Petitions are filed under section 482 of Cr.PC praying to direct the 2nd respondent to register the case based on complaint given by the petitioner on 11.03.2015.

Prayer in CRL OP(MD). 5109/ 2015 :

Criminal Original Petitions are filed under section 482 of Cr.PC praying to direct the respondents to immediately register a case on the complaint given by the petitioner dated 02.03.2015.

Prayer in CRL OP(MD). 5112/ 2015 :

Criminal Original Petitions are filed under section 482 of Cr.PC praying to directing the 3rd respondent herein to register a case on the petitioners complaint dated 24.2.2015 enquire the same file a report before court concerned.

Prayer in CRL OP(MD). 5118/ 2015 :

Criminal Original Petitions are filed under section 482 of Cr.PC praying to direct the respondents 1 and 2 herein to register the complaint dated 25.10.2014 made by the petitioner to the respondents 1 and 2 and to take on file, investigate and proceed with the same in accordance with law.

Prayer in CRL OP(MD). 5127/ 2015 :

Criminal Original Petitions are filed under section 482 of Cr.PC praying to direct the 3rd respondent to Register the case / F.I.R on the complaint of the petitioner dated 16.03.2015.

Prayer in CRL OP(MD). 5139/ 2015 :

Criminal Original Petitions are filed under section 482 of Cr.PC praying to direct the 2nd respondent to register the case on the basis of the Petitioners complaint dated 13.11.2014 in CSR No.246 of 2014 and pass such further or other orders.

Prayer in CRL OP(MD). 5147/ 2015 :

Criminal Original Petitions are filed under section 482 of Cr.PC praying to direct the 2nd respondent to register a case on the basis of the petitioners complaint dated 24.06.2014 on the file of the 2nd respondent to trace out the petitioners missing Passport No.E8113698 and otherwise to issue non traceable certificate to the petitioner within stipulated time.

For Petitioners:

M/S.B.JAMEEL ARASU	..in CRL OP(MD). 5094/ 2015
M/S.R.G.SHANKAR GANESH	..in CRL OP(MD). 5099/ 2015
M/S.S.E.MONICA VINCENT	
for VINCENTS LAW ASSOCIATES	..in CRL OP(MD). 5103/ 2015
M/S.A.JOEL PAUL ANTONY	..in CRL OP(MD). 5108/ 2015
M/S. R.SEVUGARAJA	
for MOTHER LAND ASSOCIATES	..in CRL OP(MD). 5109/ 2015
M/S.R.SUNDAR	..in CRL OP(MD). 5112/ 2015
M/S.S.SUBBIAH	..in CRL OP(MD). 5118/ 2015
M/S.S.MUTHUKUMAR	..in CRL OP(MD). 5127/ 2015
M/S.S.MADHAVAN	..in CRL OP(MD). 5139/ 2015
M/S.M.SATHIAMOORTHY	..in CRL OP(MD). 5147/ 2015

For Respondents:

Mr.K.V.Rajarajan,	
Govt. Advocate (Crl.Side)	..in all Crl.OP's and for R1 and R2 in Crl.OP(MD)No.5118/2015

COMMON ORDER

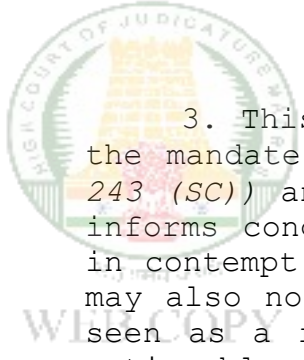
For the past two and a half months, this Court has been passing the following orders on petitions seeking registration of complaint:

"By way of an interim order, this Court directs respondent police to peruse the complaint preferred by petitioner herein and register a case if the same informs commission of cognizable offence. In particular instances, respondent police may resort to a petition enquiry which again shall not extend beyond a period of one week. This order is made towards effecting and ensuring compliance with the decision of the Apex Court in *Lalita Kumari vs. Govt. of U.P. & others [2013 (4) Crimes 243 (SC)]*. It is expected that respondent police will follow the dictate of the Apex Court in the aforesaid judgment in letter and spirit and not give room for any further action at the hands of this Court. In the event of respondent police not being in receipt of complaint allegedly preferred before them by petitioner, it would always be open for respondent police to inform such position at the next hearing date.

Post after two weeks."

Despite the same, we note that generally, action of the respondents have been more in the breach than in observance.

2. The matter is one of grave concern. Despite the decision of the Apex Court in *Lalita Kumari vs. Govt. of U.P. & Others (2013 (4) Crimes 243 (SC))* and despite the repeated direction of this Court requiring action of respondent police, the respondent police ever so often, are found to conduct themselves with gay abandon.



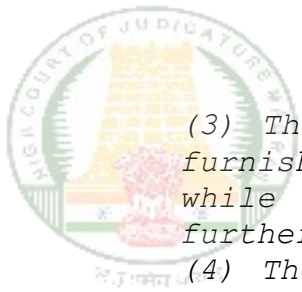
3. This Court, therefore, directs the respondents to strictly follow the mandate in *Lalita Kumari vs. Govt. of U.P. & Others* (2013 (4) Crimes 243 (SC)) and register cases without fail, where reading of the complaint informs cognizable offences. Their failure to do so would be actionable in contempt at the hands of the respective petitioners. Respondent Police may also note that if their resorting to conduct of petition enquiry, is seen as a ruse to avoid the registration of a case, the same would be actionable in contempt. We would also add a word in caution that the decision of the Apex Court in *Arnesh Kumar vs. State of Bihar and Another* reported in (2014) 3 MLJ (Cr1) (SC) scrupulously is to be followed. Such decision in paragraph Nos.9, 14 and 15, inform thus:

"9. From a plain reading of the aforesaid provision, it is evident that a person accused of offence punishable with imprisonment for a term which may be less than seven years or which may extend to seven years with or without fine, cannot be arrested by the police officer only on its satisfaction that such person had committed the offence punishable as aforesaid. Police officer before arrest, in such cases has to be further satisfied that such arrest is necessary to prevent such person from committing any further offence; or for proper investigation of the case; or to prevent the accused from causing the evidence of the offence to disappear; or tampering with such evidence in any manner; or to prevent such person from making any inducement, threat or promise to a witness so as to dissuade him from disclosing such facts to the Court or the police officer; or unless such accused person is arrested, his presence in the court whenever required cannot be ensured. These are the conclusions, which one may reach based on facts. Law mandates the police officer to state the facts and record the reasons in writing which led him to come to a conclusion covered by any of the provisions aforesaid, while making such arrest. Law further requires the police officers to record the reasons in writing for not making the arrest. In pith and core, the police officer before arrest must put a question to himself, why arrest? Is it really required? What purpose it will serve? What object it will achieve? It is only after these questions are addressed and one or the other conditions as enumerated above is satisfied, the power of arrest needs to be exercised. In fine, before arrest first the police officers should have reason to believe on the basis of information and material that the accused has committed the offence. Apart from this, the police officer has to be satisfied further that the arrest is necessary for one or the more purposes envisaged by sub-clauses (a) to (e) of clause (1) of Section 41 of Cr.P.C.

14. Our endeavour in this judgment is to ensure that police officers do not arrest accused unnecessarily and Magistrate do not authorize detention casually and mechanically. In order to ensure what we have observed above, we give the following direction:

(1) All the State Governments to instruct its police officers not to automatically arrest when a case under Section 498-A of the IPC is registered but to satisfy themselves about the necessity for arrest under the parameters laid down above flowing from Section 41, Cr.P.C;

(2) All the State Governments to ensure that police officers be provided with a check list containing specified sub-clauses under Section 41(1)(b)(ii);



(3) The police officer shall forward the check list duly filed and furnish the reasons and materials which necessitated the arrest, while forwarding/producing the accused before the Magistrate for further detention;

(4) The Magistrate while authorising detention of the accused shall peruse the report furnished by the police officer in terms aforesaid and only after recording its satisfaction, the Magistrate will authorise detention;

(5) The decision not to arrest an accused, be forwarded to the Magistrate within two weeks from the date of the institution of the case with a copy to the Magistrate which may be extended by the Superintendent of police of the district for the reasons to be recorded in writing;

(6) Notice of appearance in terms of Section 41A of Cr.PC be served on the accused within two weeks from the date of institution of the case, which may be extended by the Superintendent of Police of the District for the reasons to be recorded in writing;

(7) Failure to comply with the directions aforesaid shall apart from rendering the police officers concerned liable for departmental action, they shall also be liable to be punished for contempt of court to be instituted before High Court having territorial jurisdiction.

(8) Authorising detention without recording reasons as aforesaid by the judicial Magistrate concerned shall be liable for departmental action by the appropriate High Court.

15. We hasten to add that the directions aforesaid shall not only apply to the cases under Section 498-A of the I.P.C. or Section 4 of the Dowry Prohibition Act, the case in hand, but also such cases where offence is punishable with imprisonment for a term which may be less than seven years or which may extend to seven years; whether with or without fine.

4. These petitions are ordered as above. Consequently, connected miscellaneous petitions are closed.

Sd/-

Assistant Registrar(CO)

/True copy/

Sub Assistant Registrar

To,

1 THE SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, TIRUNELVELI.

2 THE INSPECTOR OF POLICE, RADHAPURAM POLICE STATION,
TIRUNELVELI DIST.

3 THE INSPECTOR OF POLICE, THIRUPPARANKUNDRAM POLICE STATION,
MADURAI.

4 THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, MADURAI DISTRICT, MADURAI.

5 THE INSPECTOR OF POLICE, D2-SELLUR POLICE STATION,
MADURAI DISTRICT, MADURAI.



6 THE SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, TRICHY DISTRICT, TRICHY.

7 THE INSPECTOR OF POLICE, MUSIRI POLICE STATION,
TRICHY DISTRICT.

8 THE SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, DINDIGUL DISTRICT, DINDIGUL.

9 THE INSPECTOR OF POLICE, ALL WOMEN POLICE STATION,
DINDIGUL, DINDIGUL DISTRICT.

10 THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, C.O.P.OFFICE, TVS TOLLGATE,
TRICHY, TRICHY DISTRICT.

11 THE INSPECTOR OF POLICE, CRIME BRANCH, FORT POLICE STATION,
TRICHY, TRICHY DISTRICT.

12 THE INSPECTOR OF POLICE, LAW AND ORDER, FORT POLICE STATION,
TRICHY, TRICHY DISTRICT.

13 THE DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE,
KOVILPATTI-628 502, TUTICORIN DIST.

14 THE INSPECTOR OF POLICE, KOVILPATTI WEST CIRCLE,
KOVILPATTI-628 502, TUTICORIN DIST.

15 THE SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, SIVAGANGAI DISTRICT, SIVAGANGAI.

16 THE DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE,
RAMNAGAR, DEVAKOTTAI, SIVAGANGAI DIST.

17 THE INSPECTOR OF POLICE, TALUK POLICE STATION, DEVAKOTTAI,
SIVAGANGAI DIST.

18 THE SUB INSPECTOR OF POLICE, KALLAL POLICE STATION,
SIVAGANGAI DISTRICT.

19 THE SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, MADURAI DISTRICT, MADURAI.

20 THE INSPECTOR OF POLICE, MELUR POLICE STATION, MELUR TALUK,
MADURAI DISTRICT.

21. THE ADDITIONAL PUBLIC PROSECUTOR, MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT,
MADURAI.

+1CC to M/s.B.Jammal Arasu, Advocate in SR.14484

+1CC to M/s.M.Karthikeya Venkitachalapathy, Advocate in SR.13836

Cr1.O.P.Nos.5094, 5099, 5103, 5108, 5109,
5112, 5118, 5127, 5139 and 5147 of 2015
23.03.2015

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