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THE HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE T.SUNIL CHOWDARY

CRIMINAL PETITION No.14073 of 2015

ORDER:

This petition is filed under Section 482 Cr.P.C. to quash the proceedings against the petitioners/accused Nos.1 to 6 in Crime No.117 of 2015 on the file of the Station House Officer, Yelamanchili (R) Police Station, Visakhapatnam Rural, registered for the offences under Sections 323, 509 and 341 read with 34 I.P.C. and Section 3 (1) (x) read with 3 (1) (xi) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.

2. Heard the learned counsel for the petitioners and the learned Public Prosecutor representing the State.

3. A perusal of the record reveals that the petitioners are accused Nos.1 to 6 and the first respondent is the *de facto* complainant in Crime No.117 of 2015.

4. As per the allegations made in the complaint, on 12.12.2015 at about 11:00 PM, the petitioners insulted the first respondent in the name of his caste. It is further alleged that the petitioners beat the first respondent and threatened him with dire consequences.

5. Whether the petitioners have committed the alleged offences or not will come to light during the course of investigation. While exercising the inherent power under Section 482 Cr.P.C., the Court has to take into consideration the allegations made in the complaint only. The Court is not justified in embarking upon an enquiry as to probability, reliability or genuineness of the allegations made in the complaint at the initial stage of investigation. The material placed before the Court is *prima facie* sufficient to investigate into the matter in order to ascertain the truthfulness or otherwise of the allegations made

in the complaint.

6. Having regard to the facts and circumstances of the case and also the principles enunciated by the Supreme Court in **R.P.Kapoor v. State of Punjab**^[1] and **State of Haryana v. Bhajanlal**^[2], I am of the considered view that it is not a fit case to quash the proceedings at the initial stage of the investigation.

7. The learned counsel for the petitioners submitted that the petitioners are students. Hence, the concerned Station House Officer may be directed not to arrest the petitioners till completion of the investigation.

8. Taking into consideration the facts and circumstances of the case, this Court is inclined to direct the Station House Officer, Yelamanchili (R) Police Station, Visakhapatnam Rural, not to arrest the petitioners/accused Nos.1 to 6 in Crime No.117 of 2015 till completion of the investigation.

9. With the above direction, the Criminal Petition is dismissed.

10. Consequently, Miscellaneous Petitions, if any, pending in this Criminal Petition shall stand closed.

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T.SUNIL CHOWDARY, J

Date: 31.12.2015

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^[1] AIR 1960 SC 866

^[2] AIR 1992 SC 604