

THE HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE T.SUNIL CHOWDARY

CRIMINAL PETITION No.1716 of 2016

ORDER:

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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.48 of 2016 on the file of Station House Officer, III Town Police Station, Kurnool, registered under Section 420 read with 34 IPC and 3(1)(X) of Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.

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

A perusal of the record reveals that the petitioners are accused Nos.1 to 6 and the third respondent is the *de facto* complainant in Crime No.48 of 2016. As per the allegations made in the complaint, the first petitioner made a false promise that he will marry the *de facto* complainant. The gist of the allegations made in the complaint is that the petitioners herein cheated and third respondent and insulted her in the name of her caste. Learned counsel for the petitioners submitted that the third respondent lodged a complaint at the instance of her father. A perusal of the record reveals that this Court in W.P.M.P.No.3800 of 2016 in W.P.No.2994 of 2016 passed the following interim order so far as the first accused is concerned:

“Unless the petitioner’s presence is warranted in the context of any criminal investigation, the police authorities shall not interfere with his life or liberty or that of his family members.”

A perusal of the record reveals that the present complaint is lodged on 04.02.2016. Whether the petitioners have committed

the alleged offence or not will come to light during the course of investigation.

It is needless to say that the court has to take into consideration the allegations made in the complaint while exercising inherent jurisdiction under Section 482 Cr.P.C., in order to quash the criminal proceedings at the initial stage of investigation. The court is not justified in embarking upon an enquiry to ascertain the truthfulness, genuineness or otherwise of the allegations made in the complaint. It is a settled principle of law that the inherent power should not be exercised to stifle a legitimate investigation. If the allegations made in the complaint do not constitute the offence much less the offence alleged to have been committed by the petitioners, then this court can quash the proceedings in order to prevent abuse of process of court thereby to secure the ends of justice.

I have carefully perused the material available on record in order to ascertain whether the allegations made in the complaint are patently absurd and inherently improbable thereby to quash the proceedings. The material available on record is *prima facie* sufficient to investigate into the matter in order to ascertain the truthfulness or otherwise of the allegations made in the complaint.

Having regard to the facts and circumstances of the case and also the principle enunciated in **R.P.KAPOOR v. STATE OF PUNJAB**^[1], **STATE OF HARYANA v. BHAJAN LAL**^[2], **V.Y.JOSE V STATE OF GUJARAT**^[3] **AND TEEJA DEVI v. STATE OF RAJASTHAN**^[4], I am of the considered view that this is not a fit case to quash the criminal proceedings at the

threshold.

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

Having regard to the facts and circumstances of the case, the Station House Officer, III Town Police Station, Kurnool, is hereby directed not to arrest the petitioners/accused Nos.1 to 6 in Crime No.48 of 2016 till completion of investigation.

With the above direction, the Criminal Petition is dismissed.

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

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T.SUNIL CHOWDARY, J

Date:12.02.2016

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[\[1\]](#) AIR 1960 SC 866

[\[2\]](#) AIR 1992 SC 604

[\[3\]](#) (2009) 3 SCC 78

[\[4\]](#) 2015 (1) ACR 564 (SC)