

THE HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE T.SUNIL CHOWDARY

CRIMINAL PETITION No.2529 of 2010

ORDER:

This Criminal Petition is filed under Section 482 Cr.P.C. seeking to quash proceedings initiated against the petitioner/accused in Crime No.30 of 2010 of Mudigubba Police Station, Ananthapur District, registered for the offences punishable under Sections 341, 350, 186, 506 read with Section 34 IPC.

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Heard the learned counsel for the petitioner, the learned counsel for the second respondent and the learned Public Prosecutor representing the State.

A perusal of the record reveals that the petitioner is the accused and the second respondent is *de facto* complainant in Crime No.30 of 2010. As per the allegations made in the complaint, on 04-03-2010, the petitioner along with others prevented Government officials from distributing cement bags to the eligible beneficiaries. It is further alleged that the petitioner and his followers threatened the officials with dire consequences. The contention of the petitioner is that the officials are distributing cement bags to the people other than eligible beneficiaries as per the resolution of Gram Panchayat. The fact remains that as on the date of alleged incident, the petitioner is the Sarpanch of the village. Whether the petitioner had committed the alleged offences or not will come to light during the course of investigation. If this Court expresses any opinion touching the merits of the main case, the same may cause prejudice to one of the parties to the proceedings.

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.

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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 petitioner submits that the concerned Station House Officer may be directed not to arrest the petitioners till completion of investigation.

While admitting criminal petition, on 18-03-2010, this Court granted interim stay of further proceedings and the same has been in force till date.

Having regard to the facts and circumstances of the case and in view of the interim stay granted by this Court on 18-03-2010, the Station House Officer, Mudigubba Police Station, Ananthapur District, is hereby directed not to arrest the petitioner/accused in Crime No.30 of 2010 till completion of investigation.

With the above direction, the Criminal Petition is dismissed. Consequently, miscellaneous petitions, if any, pending in the Criminal Petition shall stand closed.

T.SUNIL CHOWDARY, J

Date: 17-02-2016

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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)