

HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE C. PRAVEEN KUMAR

CRIMINAL PETITION No.2854 OF 2016

ORDER:

The petitioner/A.1 in FIR.No.272 of 2015 of Piduguralla Police Station, Guntur District, has filed this criminal petition under Section 438 of Cr.P.C., seeking release, in the event of his arrest in connection with the said crime registered for the offence punishable under Section 420 and Section 7(1) of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

Though various contentions are raised, learned counsel for the petitioner seeks a direction to the respondent-Police to follow the judgment of the Apex Court in ARNESH KUMAR V. STATE OF BIHAR AND ANOTHER^[1].

In ARNESH KUMAR's case (1 supra), the Apex Court held as under:

- 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 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 authorizing 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 authorize 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 41 A of Cr.P.C. 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 Magistrate concerned shall be liable for departmental action by the appropriate high court.

The Apex Court also held that “ the directions aforesaid shall not only apply to the cases under Section 498-A of the IPC 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.”

Therefore, without going into the merits of the case and having regard to the submissions made by the learned counsel for the petitioner, the respondent-Police are directed not to take any coercive steps against the petitioner/A.1 without following the conditions stipulated in the aforesaid judgment of the Apex Court and also Section 41 Cr.P.C.

With the above direction, the Criminal Petition is disposed of.

JUSTICE C. PRAVEEN KUMAR

09.03.2016.

Msr

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[\[1\]](#) 2014 (2) ALT (CrI.) 457 SC