

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED : 08.08.2017

CORAM

THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE M.DURAI SWAMY

W.P.No.21091 of 2017

and

WMP No.21967 of 2017

Lijomon M.J.

... Petitioner

Vs

1. The Commissioner of Police,
Salem City,
Salem District

2. The Inspector of police,
Surumangalam Police Station,
Salem

... Respondents

Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, praying to issue a Writ of Mandamus forbearing the respondents or their men, agents from interfering with the peaceful conduct of business i.e., cross massage in the name and style of " Ayura Ayurvedic Spa" at No.35, State bank Colony, 1st cross street, Salem-5.

For Petitioner : Mr.S.Leonard Vasanth

For Respondents : Mr.E.Balamurugan
Additional Government Pleader

सत्यमेव जयते
O R D E R

Mr.E.Balamurugan, learned Additional Government Pleader, takes notice for the respondents. By consent, the main writ petition itself is taken up for disposal at the admission stage itself.

2. The petitioner has filed the above Writ Petition to issue a writ of mandamus, forbearing the respondents or their men, agents from interfering with the peaceful conduct of business i.e., cross massage in the name and style of " Ayura Ayurvedic Spa" at No.35, State bank Colony, 1st cross street, Salem-5.

3. According to the petitioner, he is running the business for the past six months without any room for complaint and that Kerala Traditional Treatment is being given in the Centre. By virtue of this Ayurvedic treatment, many customers got cured. The petitioner has also stated that the on the basis of some complaints that illegal activities are being carried on in the centre, which is factually wrong, the respondent police are frequently visiting and interfering with the business activities and thereby, causing hardship to the customers coming to the premises for Traditional treatment. In order to prevent hardship, the petitioner has come forward with the present Writ Petition.

4. This court, in similar circumstances, following the ratio laid down by this court in the judgment reported in 2015(1) MLJ 308 [Masti Health and Beauty Private limited & Others V. The Commissioner of Police, Chennai City], disposed of the writ petition in W.P.No.9380 of 2016, by order dated 14.03.2016, by directing the respondents-police to comply with the directions/conditions imposed in paragraph 67 of the order in the judgment reported in 2015(1) MLJ 308 (cited supra) and further made it clear that the petitioner therein, under the guise of carrying on business activity, shall not indulge in any unlawful or illegal activities detrimental to law and order or public order.

5. Since the issue involved in the present writ petition is identical to the issue involved in W.P.No.9380 of 2016, it is relevant to extract para 67 of the order passed in 2015(1) MLJ 308 (cited supra), which reads as follows:-

67. In the light of the above, all the writ petitions are disposed of to the following effect:

(i) The respondents shall not, as a matter of routine and without any basis, conduct any raids and interfere with the business carried on by the petitioners;

(ii) In specific cases where the police have reasonable grounds to believe that an offence punishable under the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act has been or is being committed, it is open to the police to take action, after scrupulously following all the steps indicated in Section 15 of the said Act. The steps to be followed are narrated by me in paragraph 28 above; and

(iii) Based upon the laws enacted in various States of the United States of America and Singapore, which I have dealt with in paragraphs 39 to 54, the respondents may take appropriate

steps for bringing in either a new legislation or a subordinate legislation in terms of the provisions of the Chennai City Municipal Corporation Act or the Chennai City Police Act, so that public order, decency and morality, which can form the basis for a regulatory law under Article 19(2) of The Constitution, are taken care of."

6. In the light of the said order, the writ petition is disposed of by directing the respondents-police to comply with the directions imposed in para 67 of the order as extracted above. It is also made clear that the petitioner, under the guise of carrying on business activity, shall not indulge in any unlawful or illegal activities detrimental to law and order or public order.

With these observations, the Writ Petition is disposed of. No costs. Consequently, W.M.P.No.21967 of 2017 is closed.

Sd/-

Assistant Registrar(CS V)

//True Copy//

Sub Assistant Registrar

sra

To

1. The Commissioner of Police,
Salem City,
Salem District
2. The Inspector of police,
Surumangalam Police Station,
Salem.

+lcc to Mr.S.Leonard Vasanth, Advocate, S.R.No.57096

+lcc to the Government Pleader, S.R.No.57469

W.P.No.21091 of 2017

CS IV
CA(21/08/2017)