

THE HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE T.SUNIL CHOWDARY

CRIMINAL PETITION No.6189 of 2017

ORDER:

This petition is filed under Section 482 Cr.P.C. to quash the proceedings against the petitioners/accused Nos.1 to 4 in Crime No.87 of 2017 on the file of the Station House Officer, Bhadrachalam (Town) Police Station, registered for the offences punishable under Sections 498-A and 506 read with 34 I.P.C., and Sections 3 and 4 of the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961.

2. The learned counsel for the petitioners submitted that the allegations made in the complaint do not constitute any offence much less the offences alleged to have been committed by the petitioners; therefore, it is a fit case to quash the proceedings.

3. The learned Assistant Public Prosecutor submitted that the allegations made in the complaint constitute the offences alleged to have been committed by the petitioners.

4. A perusal of the record reveals that the petitioners are accused Nos.1 to 4 and the second respondent is the *de-facto* complainant in Crime No.87 of 2017. It further reveals that the marriage of the second respondent was performed with petitioner No.1 on 06.06.2015 at Bhadrachalam as per Hindu rites and caste customs.

5. As per the allegations made in the complaint, at the time of marriage, the parents of the second respondent gave an amount of Rs.13,00,000/- and 14 tulas of gold to the petitioners towards dowry. It is further alleged that the petitioners herein subjected

the second respondent to cruelty physically and mentally by demanding an amount of Rs.10,00,000/- towards additional dowry.

6. 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. Whether the petitioners have committed the alleged offences or not will come to light during the course 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.

7. Having regard to the facts and circumstances of the case and also the principle enunciated in **R.P.Kapoor v. State of Punjab¹**, **State of Haryana v. Bhajan Lal²**, **V.Y.Jose v. State of Gujarat³** and **Teeja Devi v. State of Rajasthan⁴**, I am of the considered view that it is not a fit case to quash the criminal proceedings at the threshold.

8. Taking into consideration the facts and circumstances of the case and also the principle enunciated by the Supreme Court in **Arnesh Kumar v. State of Bihar⁵**, the Station House Officer, Bhadrachalam (Town) Police Station, is hereby directed to follow the procedure as contemplated under Section 41A Cr.P.C. in

¹ AIR 1960 SC 866

² AIR 1992 SC 604

³ (2009) 3 SCC 78

⁴ 2015 (1) ACR 564 (SC)

⁵ (2014) 8 SCC 273

Crime No.87 of 2017 so far as the petitioners/accused Nos.1 to 4 are concerned.

9. With the above direction, the Criminal Petition is disposed of. Consequently, Miscellaneous Petitions, if any, pending in this Criminal Petition shall stand closed.

T.SUNIL CHOWDARY, J

Date: 26.07.2017
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