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CRL.O.P.(MD).No.13953 of 2019

BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED: 03.10.2019

CORAM

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE **G.K.ILANTHIRAIYAN**

CRL.O.P. (MD).No.13953 of 2019

and

CRL.M.P. (MD)No.8511 of 2019

1.Mani Nadar
2.Ayyanar
3.Ramya
4.Kalpana

...Petitioners

Vs.

1.State represented by
The Inspector of Police,
All Women Police Station,
Nilakotai, Dindigul District.

2.K.Dhanalakshmi

... Respondents

PRAYER : Criminal Original Petition is filed under Section 482 of Cr.P.C, to call for the records pertaining to Crime No.6 of 2019, on the file of the first respondent and quash the same so far as the petitioners are concerned.

For Petitioners
For R1

: Mr.A.Sivasubramanian
: Mr.K.Suyambulinga Bharathi,
Government Advocate (Crl.Side)

ORDER

This petition has been filed to quash the proceedings in crime No.6 of 2019 on the file of the Inspector of Police, All Women Police Station, Nilakotai, Dindigul District.

2.The learned Counsel appearing for the petitioners would submit that the petitioners are innocent persons and they have not committed any offence as alleged by the prosecution. Without any base, the first respondent police registered a case in Crime No.6 of 2019 for the offences under Sections 120(B), 294(b), 323, 354, 406, 420 and 506(ii) of I.P.C and Section 4 of Tamil Nadu Prohibition of Harassment of Women Act, 2002, as against the petitioners. Hence he prayed to quash the same.

3.The learned Government Advocate (criminal side) would submit that the investigation is still pending and this petition is in premature stage and hence, he prayed for dismissal of this petition.



4. Heard both sides and perused the materials available on record.

5. It is also relevant to rely upon the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India passed in **Crl.A.No.255 of 2019** dated **12.02.2019 - Sau. Kamal Shivaji Pokarnekar vs. the State of Maharashtra & ors.**, as follows:-

"4. The only point that arises for our consideration in this case is whether the High Court was right in setting aside the order by which process was issued. It is settled law that the Magistrate, at the stage of taking cognizance and summoning, is required to apply his judicial mind only with a view to taking cognizance of the offence, or in other words, to find out whether a prima facie case has been made out for summoning the accused persons. The learned Magistrate is not required to evaluate the merits of the material or evidence in support of the complaint, because the Magistrate must not undertake the exercise to find out whether the materials would lead to a conviction or not.

5. Quashing the criminal proceedings is called for only in a case where the complaint does not disclose any offence, or is frivolous, vexatious, or oppressive. If the allegations set out in the complaint do not constitute the offence of which cognizance has been taken by the Magistrate, it is open to the High Court to quash the same. It is not necessary that a meticulous analysis of the case should be done before the Trial to find out whether the case would end in conviction or acquittal. If it appears on a reading of the complaint and consideration of the allegations therein, in the light of the statement made on oath that the ingredients of the offence are disclosed, there would be no justification for the High Court to interfere.

6.....

7.....

8.....

9. Having heard the learned Senior Counsel and examined the material on record, we are of the considered view that the High Court ought not to have set aside the order passed by the Trial Court issuing summons to the Respondents. A perusal of the complaint discloses that prima facie, offences that are alleged against the Respondents. The correctness or otherwise of the said allegations has to be decided only in the Trial. At the initial stage of issuance of process it is not open to the Courts to stifle the proceedings by entering into the merits of the contentions made on behalf of the accused. Criminal complaints cannot be



quashed only on the ground that the allegations made therein appear to be of a civil nature. If the ingredients of the offence alleged against the accused are prima facie made out in the complaint, the criminal proceeding shall not be interdicted."

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6.In view of the above citations, the criminal proceedings against the petitioners cannot be quashed at its threshold and it has to be gone in to by full fledged trial. Therefore, the charges cannot be quashed at this stage and this criminal original petition is liable to be dismissed.

7.In view of the above, this Court is not inclined to quash the FIR. Accordingly, this criminal original petition is dismissed. No costs. Consequently, connected miscellaneous petition is also dismissed. However, the first respondent is directed to complete the investigation and file a final report within a period of six (06) months from the date of receipt of copy of this Order, before the jurisdiction Magistrate.

Sd/-

Assistant Registrar (P&A)

// True Copy //

Sub Assistant Registrar(CS)

das

To

1. The Inspector of Police,
All Women Police Station,
Nilakotai, Dindigul District.
2. The Additional Public Prosecutor,
Madurai Bench of Madras High Court,
Madurai.

CRL.O.P. (MD) .No.13953 of 2019
and

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CS (30.10.2019) 3P 3C