



BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED: 30.09.2019

CORAM

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE G.K.ILANTHIRAIYAN

CRL.O.P (MD) No.20393 of 2018

and

Cr1.M.P. (MD) No.9402, 9403 and 216 of 2019

WEB COPY

- 1.Ramakrishnan
- 2.Latha
- 3.Lingappan
- 4.Krishnan
- 5.Dharmaraj

... Petitioners / Respondents

Vs

- 1.Rajamani ...1st Respondent/Protest Petitioner

- 2.State rep. by

The Sub Inspector of Police,
Sattur Police Station City
Sattur,
Virudhunagar District,
Crime No.206 of 2014

...2nd Respondent/Respondent

PRAYER: Criminal Original Petition filed under Section 482 of Cr.P.C, praying to call for the records relating to the proceedings in C.C.No.109 of 2017 in crime No.206 of 2014 on the file of the Judicial Magistrate No.II, Sattur and quash the same.

For Petitioner : Ms.S.Mahalakshmi

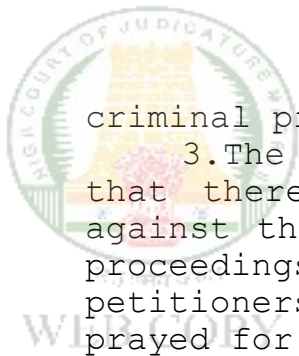
For Respondents : Mr.C.Solai Raj, for R1

Mr.K.Suyambulinga bharathi,
G.A. (Crl. Side) for R2

O R D E R

This petition has been filed to quash the proceedings in C.C.No.109 of 2017 on the file of the Judicial Magistrate No.II, Sattur and quash the same.

2.The learned counsel appearing for the petitioners would submit that the petitioners are innocent persons and they have been falsely implicated in the case with oblique motive. Initially, on the complaint given by the 1st respondent, the respondent police registered the case in crime No.206 of 2014 and after the completion of enquiry, the 2nd respondent closed the said complaint as 'Mistake of Fact'. However, on the protest petition filed by the 1st respondent, the learned Judicial Magistrate has taken cognizance in C.C.No.109 of 2017 and hence, he prayed for quashment of the



criminal proceeding as against the petitioners.

3.The learned Government Advocate (criminal side) submitted that there are materials available to proceed with the case as against the petitioners herein and at the threshold, the criminal proceedings cannot be quashed and the charges framed against the petitioners have to be gone into a full-fledged trial and hence, he prayed for dismissal of the petition.

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

5.It is 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** in the case of **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.

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7.....



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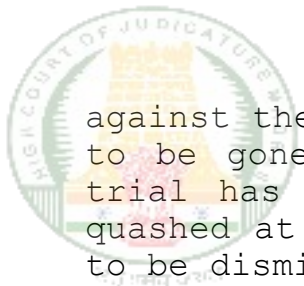
9. Having heard the learned Senior Counsel and examined the material on record, we are of the considered view that the High Court ought not to have set aside the order passed by the Trial Court issuing summons to the Respondents. A perusal of the complaint discloses that prima facie, offences that are 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."

6.It is also relevant to rely upon the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India passed in **Crl.A.No.579 of 2019** dated **02.04.2019** in the case of **Devendra Prasad Singh Vs. State of Bihar & Anr.**, as follows:-

" 12.So far as the second ground is concerned, we are of the view that the High Court while hearing the application under Section 482 of the Cr.P.C. had no jurisdiction to appreciate the statement of the witnesses and record a finding that there were inconsistencies in their statements and, therefore, there was no prima facie case made out against respondent No.2. In our view, this could be done only in the trial while deciding the issues on the merits or/and by the Appellate Court while deciding the appeal arising out of the final order passed by the Trial Court but not in Section 482 Cr.P.C. proceedings.

13.In view of the foregoing discussion, we allow the appeal, set aside the impugned order and restore the aforementioned complaint case to its original file for being proceeded with on merits in accordance with law.

7.In view of the above citations, the criminal proceedings as
<https://hcservices.ecourts.gov.in/hcservices/>



against the petitioners cannot be quashed at its threshold and it has to be gone in to by full fledged trial. Further, in this case, trial has also been commenced. Therefore, the charges cannot be quashed at this stage and this criminal original petition is liable to be dismissed.

8. Accordingly, this criminal original petition is dismissed with the liberty to the petitioners to raise all the grounds before the trial Court. Consequently, connected miscellaneous petitions are also dismissed. However, the learned Judicial Magistrate No.II, Sattur, is directed to complete the trial and dispose of the case, within a period of six months from the date of receipt of a copy of this order. The personal appearance of the petitioners before the trial Court is dispensed with, except the dates on which, the trial Judge insisted the petitioners for their appearance.

Sd/-

Assistant Registrar (AD I)

// True Copy //

Sub Assistant Registrar (CS)

Arul

To

1. The Sub Inspector of Police,
Sattur Police Station City
Sattur,
Virudhunagar District.

2. The Judicial Magistrate No.II, Sattur.

3. The Additional Public Prosecutor,
Madurai Bench of Madras High Court,
Madurai.

+1 CC to M/s.G. SOLAI RAJA, Advocate (SR-90629[F] dated 01/10/2019

Order made in
CRL.O.P (MD) No.20393 of 2018
30.09.2019

_KK/SAR/21.10.2019/4P-5C/