



BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED: 04.10.2019

CORAM

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

CRL.O.P.(MD).No.20564 of 2018

and

CRL.M.P.(MD)Nos.9505 and 9506 of 2018

WEB COPY

1.Panchavarnam

2.Andal

3.Thirulogachandran

... Petitioners

Vs.

1.The Inspector of Police,
District Crime Branch,
Dindigul District, Dindigul.
Crime No.96 of 2014.

2.Karthikeyan

.. Respondents

PRAYER: This Criminal Original Petition has been filed under Section 482 of Criminal Procedure Code, to call for the records pertaining to the complaint in C.C.No.498 of 2017, on the file of the Judicial Magistrate No.II, Dindigul and quash the same as illegal.

For Petitioners: Mr.T.Vadivelan

For R1 : Mr.K.Suyambulinga Bharathi,
Government Advocate (Criminal Side)

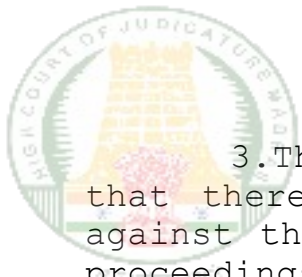
For R2 : Mr.K.Asok Kumar Ram

O R D E R

This Criminal Original Petition has been filed to quash the impugned charge sheet in C.C.No.498 of 2017, on the file of the Judicial Magistrate No.II, Dindigul.

2.The learned counsel appearing for the petitioners would submit that the petitioners are innocents and there was a property dispute between the petitioners and the second respondent. Therefore, the second respondent lodged a complaint before the respondent police. After conducting investigation, the respondent police registered a case in Crime No.96 of 2014, for offence punishable under Sections 419, 420, 465, 468, 471, r/w 120(b) of IPC as against the petitioners and also filed a final report before the learned Judicial Magistrate No.II, Dindigul, in C.C.No.498 of 2017.

<https://hservices.courts.gov.in/hservices/>



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. Further, he would submit that the trial has also been commenced and hence, he prayed for dismissal of the petition.

4.Heard the learned counsel for the petitioners and the learned Government Advocate (Criminal Side)for official respondent.

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



.....

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 against the petitioners cannot be quashed at its threshold and it has to be taken 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. At this juncture, the learned counsel for the petitioners submitted that personal appearance of the petitioners before the Court below in C.C.No.498 of 2017, on the file of the learned Judicial Magistrate No.II, Dindigul, may be dispensed with.

9. Accepting the same, the personal appearance of the petitioners is dispensed with before the trial Court, except for furnishing copies, framing charges, questioning under Section 313 Cr.P.C and at the time of judgment.

10. In view of the above, this Court is not inclined to quash the Charge Sheet. Hence this Criminal Original Petition stands dismissed. However, the learned Judicial Magistrate No.II, Dindigul, is directed to complete the trial within a period of six months from the date of receipt of a copy of this Order. Consequently, connected miscellaneous petitions are closed.

Sd/-

Assistant Registrar (CRL.SIDE)

// True Copy //

Sub Assistant Registrar (CS)

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To

1. The Judicial Magistrate No.II, Dindigul.

2. The Inspector of Police,
District Crime Branch,
Dindigul District, Dindigul.

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

+1 CC to M/s.K.ASOK KUMAR RAM, Advocate (SR-91540[F] dated
04/10/2019)

CRL.O.P. (MD) .No.20564 of 2018

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