



BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED: 20.09.2019

CORAM

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE G.K.ILANTHIRAIYAN

CRL.O.P (MD) Nos.17163 and 22776 of 2018

and

Crl.M.P.(MD) Nos.7595, 7596, 10740 and 10741 of 2018

1.Parvathi
2.Sugumaran
3.Mathavi
4.Raji

... Petitioners/A2-5 in
Crl.O.P.17163/2018

1.Gopinath

... Petitioner/A1 in
Crl.O.P.22776/2018

Vs

1.The Inspector of Police,
All Women Police Station,
Thanjavur District.
Crime No.4/2018

... 1st Respondent/Complainant
in both petitions

2.G.Regia

... 2nd Respondent/Defacto Complainant
in both petitions

Common PRAYER: Criminal Original Petitions filed under Section 482 of Cr.P.C, praying to call for the records relating to the charge sheet in C.C.No.197 of 2018 on the file of the Judicial Magistrate No.1, Thanjavur and quash the same as against these petitioners are concerned.

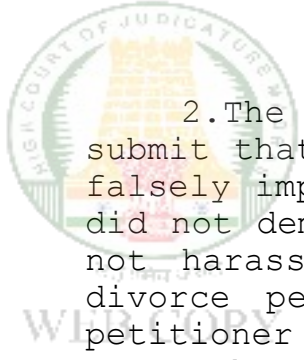
For Petitioners : Mr.M.Saravana Kumar

For Respondents : Mr.K.Suyambulinga bharathi,
G.A. (Crl. Side) for R1

Mr.C.Suresh Kannan for R2
(in both petitions)

O R D E R

These petitions have been filed to quash the proceedings in C.C.No.197 of 2018 on the file of the Judicial Magistrate No.1, Thanjavur as against the petitioners.



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. The petitioners did not demand any dowry from the defacto complainant and they have not harassing her. He further submitted that after filing the divorce petition by the husband in H.M.O.P.No.124 of 2018, the petitioner filed the false complaint against the petitioners. Hence, he prayed for quashment of the entire criminal proceedings 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 these petitions.

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



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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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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."

6.It is also relevant to rely upon the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India passed in **Cr1.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.

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7. 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 these criminal original petitions are liable to be dismissed.

8. Accordingly, these criminal original petitions are 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.1, Thanjavur, 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(CO)

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Sub Assistant Registrar

Arul

To

1. The Inspector of Police,
All Women Police Station,
Thanjavur District.

2. The Judicial Magistrate No.1, Thanjavur.

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

Order made in
CRL.O.P (MD) Nos.17163 and 22776 of 2018
20.09.2019

JM/18.10.2019/4P/4C