

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 07.07.2020

CORAM:

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE G.K.ILANTHIRAIYAN

W.P.No.3232 of 2020 and W.M.P.No.3748 of 2020

Minor M.Dhanush

Represented by his guardian and Grandmother

... Petitioner

Vs.

1. The State of Tamil Nadu,
Rep.by its Secretary,
Home Department,
Fort.St.George,
Chennai - 600 009.

2. The District Collector,
District Collectorate,
Dharmapuri District,
Dharmapuri.

3. The Superintendent of Police,
O/o. The Superintendent of Police,
Dharmapuri District,
Dharmapuri.

4. The Deputy Superintendent of Police,
O/o. The Superintendent of Police,
Dharmapuri District,
Dharmapuri.

5. The Inspector of Police,
Kottapatti Police Station,
Harur Taluk,
Dharmapuri District.

6. Anandraj,
Sub Inspector of Police,
Kottapatti Police Station,
Harur Taluk,
Dharmapuri District.

... Respondents

PRAYER: Writ Petition is filed under Article 226 of Constitution of India praying to issue a Writ of Mandamus, directing the 4th respondent herein to investigate the victim's complaint dated 14.09.2019 and grant compensation to the victim namely Minor M.Dhanush as per the relevant provisions of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 and also direct the 3rd respondent herein to initiate a disciplinary proceedings as against the 5th and 6th respondents herein based on the victim's complaint dated 14.09.2019 & 16.09.2019.

For Petitioner : Mr.S.Kumara Devan

For Respondents: Mr.S.Karthikeyan,
Additional Public Prosecutor
for R1 to R5

O R D E R

This Writ Petition has been filed to direct the 4th respondent herein to investigate the victim's complaint dated 14.09.2019 and grant compensation to the victim namely Minor M.Dhanush as per the relevant provisions of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 and also direct the 3rd respondent herein to initiate a disciplinary proceedings as against the 5th and 6th respondents herein based on the victim's complaint dated 14.09.2019 & 16.09.2019.

2. Heard Mr.S.Kumara Devan, learned counsel for the petitioner and Mr.S.Karthikeyan, learned Additional Public Prosecutor for the first to fifth respondents.

3. It is seen that the petitioner has sought for direction to the fourth respondent to investigate the victim's complaint dated 14.09.2019. In view of the Judgment of the Hon'ble Division Bench of this Court in CrI.O.P.(MD)No.13681 of 2018 and batch of cases, dated 20.09.2018, the petition of this nature is not maintainable before this Court. The relevant portion of the said order is extracted herewith:-

"35. Accordingly, we answer the references in the following manner, while giving certain directions:

(i) Section 482 Cr.P.C. cannot be invoked in all circumstances.

(ii) It is not an alternative remedy to Section 156(3) Cr.P.C. but a repository of inherent power.

(iii) The normal course of remedy on a failure or refusal to record the information is Section 156(3) of the Code of Criminal Procedure after due compliance of Section 154 (3) Cr.P.C.

(iv) A petition can be filed invoking the inherent jurisdiction of this Court only after the completion of 15 days from the date of receipt of the information by the Station House Officer. The Registry shall not receive any petition before the expiry of 15 days aforesaid.

(v) No petition shall be entertained without exhausting the remedy under Section 154 (3) Cr.P.C.

(vi) An informant can send substance of the information to the Superintendent of Police on knowing the decision of the Station House Officer in not registering the case and proceeding with the preliminary enquiry. After conducting the preliminary enquiry, the Station House Officer's decision in either registering the complaint or closing it will have to be intimated to the informant immediately and in any case not later than 7 days. Once such a decision is made, the informant cannot invoke Section 482 Cr.P.C. as the remedy lies elsewhere.

(vii) The directions issued by the Director General of Police in the circulars referred are to be strictly complied with by all the Station House Officers.

(viii) The affidavit to be filed shall contain particulars regarding the date of complaint, receipt and the date of sending substances of the information to the superintendent of Police under Section 154(3) Cr.P.C. and its receipt. The Registry shall not number any petition without due compliance.

(ix) This Court is not bound to direct the police to register the complaint in all cases not withstanding the breach of time table furnished in Lalitha Kumari's case.

(x) The judicial Magistrates, while dealing the petitions under Sections 156(3) Cr.P.C. are directed to keep in mind the narratives in Lalitha Kumari's case with specific reference to the cases, which might require a preliminary enquiry before issuing a direction to investigate and after careful

perusal of the complaint. The other directions issued by the learned Single Judge in Sugesan Transport's case are upheld.

(xi) Eschewing Section 156(3) Cr.P.C. is only on exceptional and rarest of rare cases. Monstrosity of the offence, extreme official apathy and indifference, need to answer the judicial conscience, and existence of hostile environment are few of the factors to be borne in mind to bring a case under the rarest of rare one."

However, liberty is granted to the petitioner to work out his remedy in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Hon'ble Division Bench in the decision referred supra. Insofar as the other prayers regarding compensation and initiation of disciplinary proceedings concerned, this Court is not inclined to consider.

4. With the above direction, this Writ Petition is disposed of. No costs. Consequently, connected Miscellaneous is closed.

Sd/-

Assistant Registrar(CS VI)

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Sub Assistant Registrar

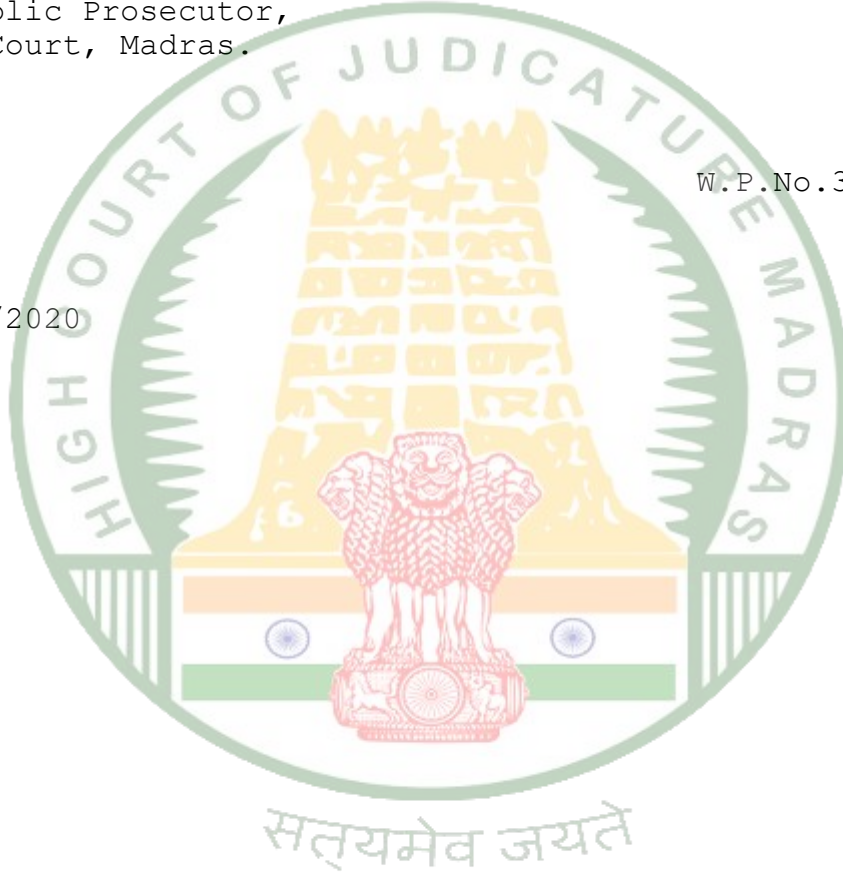
To

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