

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED : 04.11.2020

CORAM:

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE R. PONGIAPPAN

Cr1.O.P.No.17296 of 2020

V.Maruthi

...Petitioner

Vs.

1.The Superintendent of Police,
Cuddalore,
Cuddalore District.

2.The Inspector of Police,
Tittagudi Police Station,
Cuddalore District.

...Respondents

PRAYER: Criminal Original Petition filed under Section 482 Cr.P.C. praying to direct respondent to register the FIR based on the petitioner's complaint dated 16.10.2020 and investigate the matter in accordance with the law.

For Petitioner : Mr.K.Karuppaiya Mooppanar

For Respondents : Mrs.M.Prabhavathi
Additional Public Prosecutor

O R D E R

(through video conference)

This Criminal Original Petition has been filed seeking direction, to direct the respondent to register the FIR based on the petitioner's complaint dated 16.10.2020 and to investigate the matter in accordance with law.

2. Heard Mr.K.Karuppaiya Mooppanar, learned counsel appearing for the petitioner and Mrs.M.Prabhavathi, learned Additional Public Prosecutor appearing for the respondents.

3. Today when this petition is came up for hearing, the learned counsel for the petitioner fairly conceded that after preferring the complaint before the respondent police, the petitioner herein has not approached the Jurisdictional Magistrate by way of filing the complaint under Section 156(3) Cr.P.C.

4. In the said circumstances, it is necessary to decide whether this petition filed by the petitioner under section 482 Cr.P.C., is entertainable at this stage. In this regard, in the case of G.Prabakaran vs. Superintendent of Police, Thanjavur District and another reported in 2018 (5) CTC 623, the Division Bench of this Court held as follows:

"(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."

5. Further the said view taken by this Court was affirmed by our Hon'ble Apex Court in the case of M.Subramaniam and Others vs. S.Janaki and Others reported in 2020 (5) CTC 464.

6. Therefore, after closing the enquiry by the police officer, the remedy available to the complainant is to file a complaint before the jurisdictional Magistrate under section 156 (3) of Cr.P.C. In otherwise, the petition filed for the relief of direction to direct the respondent police to register the FIR is against the ratio laid down in the above referred judgments.

7. Hence, in view of the above, the prayer sought for by the petitioner is devoid of merits. Accordingly, this Criminal Original Petition is dismissed.

Sd/-

Assistant Registrar

//True Copy//

Sub Assistant Registrar

To

1.The Superintendent of Police,
Cuddalore,
Cuddalore District.

2.The Inspector of Police,
Tittagudi Police Station,
Cuddalore District.

3.The Public Prosecutor,
High Court, Madras.

Crl.O.P.No.17296 of 2020

SS(CO)
RV(02/12/2020)



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