

HONOURABLE JUSTICE G. SRI DEVI

CRIMINAL PETITION No.17 of 2020

ORDER:

1. This Criminal Petition is filed under Section 482 Cr.P.C. seeking to quash Crime No.268 of 2019 on the file of Rangunathapalem Police Station, Khammam District, registered against the petitioners for the offences punishable under Sections 447, 427 and 506 read with Section 34 IPC and Sections 3(1)(f) and 2(v)(a) of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 2015.

2. Though the learned counsel for the petitioners filed the present petition for quashing of investigation in the above Crime, he restricts his prayer seeking a direction to the Investigating agency to follow the procedure prescribed under Section 41-A Cr.P.C. and the guidelines prescribed by the Hon'ble Apex Court in *Arnesh Kumar v. State of Bihar and another*¹.

3. Learned Additional Public Prosecutor would submit that the directions of the Apex Court have to be followed and implemented.

4. In that view of the matter, the Criminal Petition is disposed of directing the respondent police to abide by the directions of the Apex Court as set out in *Arnesh Kumar case (supra)*. No coercive steps shall be taken against the petitioners till the filing of final report.

5. As a sequel thereto, miscellaneous petitions, if any, pending shall stand closed.

JUSTICE G. SRI DEVI

03rd January, 2020.

dr

¹ AIR 2014 SC 2756,