



BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED : 02.03.2021

CORAM :

THE HONOURABLE MRS.JUSTICE R. HEMALATHA

WEB COPY

Crl.OP.(MD)No.14531 of 2019 and
Crl.MP(MD)Nos.8770 and 8771 of 2019

1.Dr.S.Kandhimathi
2.Raja Seetharaman
3.Rajagopal Hari Vijay

...Petitioners/Respondents 1,2&4

vs.

Bharathi Srinivasan

... Respondent/Petitioner

PRAYER in CRL OP(MD).14531/2019: Criminal Original Petition filed under Section 482 of the Code of Criminal Procedure to call for the records in D.V.C.No.7 of 2017 on the file of the Additional Mahila Court (Magisterial Level), Madurai and quash the same as illegal as against the petitioners.

Prayer in CRL MP(MD). 8771/ 2019 : Petition filed to dispense with the personal appearance of the petitioners herein connection with D.V.C. No. 7 of 2017 on the file of the Additional Mahila Court (Magisterial Level), Madurai in respect of the Petitioners.

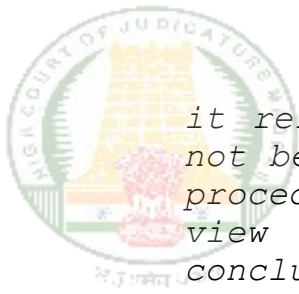
For Petitioners : Mr.S.Palani Velayutham
For Respondent : Mr.K.R.Laxman

ORDER

The present petition has been filed under Section 482 of the Code of Criminal Procedure seeking to quash the proceedings in D.V.C.No.7 of 2017 on the file of the learned Additional Mahila Court (Magistrate Level), Madurai.

2.In the decision in Crl.OP.No.28458 of 2019 batch, a Hon'ble Single Judge of this Court vide orders dated 18.01.2021 after surveying various Supreme Court Decisions clearly held that quashing the proceedings under Section 12 of the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 is not maintainable under Section 482 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. He has further held that a petition under Article 227 of the Constitution of India alone would be maintainable if it is shown that the proceedings before the Magistrate suffer from a patent lack of jurisdiction. The relevant paragraph is extracted hereunder:

"50. It follows that in view of the law laid down in S.A.L Narayan Row and Another vs. Ishwarlal Bhagwandas reported in AIR 1965 SC 1818 and Ram Kishan Fauji vs. State of Haryana reported in (2017) 5 SCC 533, that the character of a proceeding under the D.V Act, in so far as



it relates to the reliefs under Sections 18 to 23, does not become criminal in character merely on account of the procedure under the Cr.P.C adopted by the Magistrate. In view of the foregoing discussion, the inevitable conclusion is that a petition to quash an application under Section 12 of the D.V. Act is maintainable only by way of a petition under Article 227 of the Constitution and not under Section 482, Cr.P.C."

3.In the instant case, if the petitioners are aggrieved by the orders passed by the learned Additional Mahila Court (Magistrate Level), Madurai, they can file a petition under Article 227 of the Constitution of India, but definitely not under Section 482 of the Code of Criminal Procedure including the question of limitation within which Domestic Violence Original Petition can be filed by the aggrieved person.

4.The personal appearance of the petitioners is dispensed with. However, the petitioners are directed to appear before the learned Additional Mahila Court (Magistrate Level), Madurai, whenever the Magistrate requires their presence.

5.In view of the same, this petition is dismissed. Consequently, the connected Miscellaneous Petitions in Crl.M.P.(MD) No.8770 of 2019 is closed and Crl.M.P.(MD)No.8771 of 2019 is ordered.

Sd/-

Assistant Registrar (AD-II)

// True Copy //

/ /2021

Sub Assistant Registrar(CS)

SJI

Note: In view of the present lock down owing to COVID-19 pandemic, a web copy of the order may be utilized for official purposes, but, ensuring that the copy of the order that is presented is the correct copy, shall be the responsibility of the advocate/litigant concerned.

To

The Judge,
Additional Mahila Court (Magisterial Level), Madurai.

Order made in

Crl.OP.(MD)No.14531 of 2019 &

Crl.MP(MD)Nos.8770 and 8771 of 2019

02.03.2021

MJ(CO)

SRS (18/03/2021) 2P : 2C

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