



IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 21.02.2022

WEB COPY

CORAM:

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE A.D.JAGADISH CHANDIRA

Crl.O.P.No.3837 of 2022

K.Jayachandran

... Petitioner

Vs

1.State by
The Superintendent of Police,
Kallakurichi District.

2.The Deputy Superintendent of Police,
Kallakurichi District,
Kallakurichi.

3.The Inspector of Police,
All Women Police Station,
Kallakurichi District.

... Respondents

Prayer:Criminal Original Petition filed under Section 482
Cr.P.C. to direct the 3rd respondent to not to harass the
Petitioner under the guise of enquiry.

For Petitioner : Mr.M.Saravanakumar

For Respondent : Mr.V.Meganathan,
Government Advocate (crl.side)

O R D E R

This Criminal Original Petition has been filed seeking for
a direction to the 3rd respondent to not to harass the
Petitioner.

2. The learned counsel appearing for the petitioner would
submit that the respondent police harassed the petitioner under
the guise of enquiry and thereby he seeks direction to the third
respondent not to harass the petitioner under the guise of
enquiry.

3. Mr.V.Meganathan, learned Government Advocate (Criminal
side) appearing for the respondents police would submit that on
the complaint given by one Selvarani, enquiry has been conducted



in C.S.R. No.43 of 2022 and the same is pending on the file of respondent police. He would further submit that the respondents police are not harassing the petitioner.

4. Heard both sides and perused the materials available on record.

5. It is the grievance of the petitioner that the respondent police have been harassing them under the guise of an enquiry/investigation and hence, have invoked the inherent powers of this Court under Section 482 of Cr.P.C.

6. An enquiry into a non-cognizable offence or a cognizable offence is the unfettered powers of the Investigation Officers so long as the power to investigate/enquire into these offences are legitimately exercised within the frame work of Chapter XII of the Code of Criminal Procedure. Though the Code of Criminal Procedure empowers the Magistrate to be a guardian in all the stages of the police investigation, there is no power envisaging him to interfere with the actual investigation or the mode of investigation. It is in this background that numerous petitions complaining of harassment are being reported and filed before this Court seeking for directions to refrain the police officials from harassing the person named in a complaint.

7. This Court, exercising its power under Section 482 of the Criminal Procedure Code normally would not interfere with the investigation conducted by a police officer. Nevertheless, it would also not turn a blind eye to instances of harassment by the police under the guise of investigation is brought to its notice.

8. In the present case in hand, the petitioners have complained of harassment by the police based on a complaint and seek for this Court's intervention by way of a direction. The term 'harassment' by itself has a very wide meaning and hence, what could be harassment to the petitioners may not be the same to the police officer.

9. In order to circumvent such situations, the following guidelines are issued:-

a) While summoning any person named in the complaint or any witness to the incident complained of, the police officer shall summon such person through a written summon under Section 160 Cr.P.C., specifying a particular date and time for appearing before them for such an enquiry/investigation.

b) The respondents police are directed to serve summons mentioning the CSR number, date of complaint and the name of the complainant.



c) The minutes of the enquiry shall be recorded in the general diary/station diary/daily diary of the police station.

d) The police officer shall refrain himself or herself from harassing persons called upon for enquiry/investigation.

e) The guidelines stipulated for preliminary enquiry or registration of FIR by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Lalita Kumari Vs. Government of Uttar Pradesh and others [2014 (2) SCC (1)] shall be strictly adhered to.

(f) In the event of any cognizable offences made out, the respondent police shall register a regular case and follow the procedure in accordance with law.

10. With the above observations and direction, the Criminal Original Petition stands disposed of.

Sd/-
Deputy Registrar (CS)

//True copy//

Sub Assistant Registrar

shk/sai

To

- 1.The Superintendent of Police,
Kallakurichi District,
- 2.The Deputy Superintendent of Police,
Kallakurichi District,
Kallakurichi.
- 3.The Inspector of Police,
All Women Police Station,
Kallakurichi District.
- 4.The Public Prosecutor,
Madras High Court,
Madras.

+1cc to Mr.M.Saravanakumar, Advocate SR.No.11335

Cr1.O.P.No.3837 of 2022

GPL (CO)
GMY (11/03/2022)