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IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 07.04.2022

CORAM

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE G.CHANDRASEKHARAN

Crl.O.P.No.7999 of 2022

Mariyaselvam

... Petitioner

Vs.

The State rep. by
The Inspector of Police (Crime)
J-6, Thiruvanmiyur Police Station,
Thiruvanmiyur,
Chennai 600 041.

... Respondent

PRAYER: This Criminal Original Petition filed under Section 482 of Cr.P.C., to direct the respondent/police herein i.e., the Inspector of Police (Crime), J-6, Thiruvanmiyur Police Station, Thiruvanmiyur, Chennai 600 041 to not to harass the Petitioner herein for repayment of borrowed money.

For Petitioner : Mr.B.Ganesha Moorthy

For Respondents: Mr.V.Meganathan,
Government Advocate (Crl. side)

O R D E R

This petition is filed seeking direction to the respondent not to harass the petitioner for repayment of borrowed money.

2.The learned counsel for the petitioner submitted that there were monetary transactions between the petitioner and the defacto complainant. The defacto complainant gave a complaint to the respondent police and in pursuance thereof, the respondent police is harassing the petitioner and in fact obtained two cheques and also a statement by force. Therefore this petition.

3.In response the learned Government Advocate (Crl. Side) submitted that the petitioner received a sum of Rs.12,00,000/- from the defacto complainant on the false promise of getting job



and a complaint was registered in CSR No.169 of 2022 for the same. He also submitted that only preliminary enquiry is going on.

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

5. It is the grievance of the petitioner that the respondent has been harassing him under the guise of 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 persons named in a complaint.

7. This Court, exercising its power under Section 482 of the Criminal Procedure Code normally would not interfere with the enquiry or 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 enquiry or investigation is brought to its notice.

8. In the present case in hand, the petitioner has 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 petitioner 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 for enquiry the guidelines stipulated for preliminary enquiry 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.



b) 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 mentioning the CSR number, date of complaint and the name of the complainant and he shall also specify the date and time for appearing before them for such enquiry/investigation.

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.

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

SD/-
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

// TRUE COPY //

SUB ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

sli/sai
To

1.The Inspector of Police (Crime)
J-6, Thiruvanmiyur Police Station,
Thiruvanmiyur,
Chennai 600 041.

2.The Public Prosecutor,
High Court of Madras.

+lcc to Mr.B.Ganesha Moorthy, Advocate Sr.24021

Cr1.O.P.No.7999 of 2022

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