



IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

Dated: 08.06.2022

Coram:

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE N.SATHISH KUMAR

Crl.O.P.No.11216 of 2022 and
Crl.M.P.No.6437 of 2022

1. Abdul Raghim
2. Mugamudhu Ekbal
3. Mugamadhu Paruk
4. Saugath Ali
5. Jalaludeen
6. Asarap Ali

... Petitioners

Vs

1. State rep. by its The Special Inspector of Police,
Perambalur Police Station,
Perambalur.
Cr.No.794 of 20118

2. Gnanaprakasam

... Respondents

PRAYER: Criminal Original Petition filed under Section 482 of Criminal Procedure Code, to call for the records relating to Crime No.794 of 2018 on the file of the first respondent herein and quash the same.

For Petitioners : Mr.L.Abdul Basith

For Respondents : Mr.Leonard Arul Joseph Selvam
Government Advocate (Crl.Side)
- R1

O R D E R

This petition has been filed to quash the First Information Report registered in Crime No.794 of 2018 on the file of the first respondent as against the petitioners.



2. The allegation in the final report is that on 01.12.2018, the petitioners along with other persons without any prior permission unlawfully assembled and participated in a Dharna near New Bus Stand Perambalur demanding District administration to create social harmony in V.Kalathur. Thereby, they had committed the offences under Sections 143 and 188 of I.P.C.

3. The learned counsel for the petitioner submitted that the prosecution has been launched with false allegations and even when the entire prosecution case taken as a face value, the same would not constitute any offence and continuing the prosecution is nothing but abuse of process of law. Therefore, submitted that the same may be quashed.

4. The Learned Government Advocate (Criminal Side) submitted that the accused unlawfully assembled without any prior permission and thereby, First Information has been registered.

5. It is to be noted that while exercising the power under Section 482, the Court should be slow, at the same time, if the Court finds that from the entire materials collected by the prosecution taken as a whole, would not constitute any offence, in such situation, directing the parties to undergo ordeal of trial will be a futile exercise and it will infringe the right of the persons and in this regard, the Apex Court in State of Haryana and others Vs. Bhajan Lal and Others reported in 1992 Supp (1) Supreme Court Cases 335, has been held as follows :

'.....

(a) where the allegations made in the First Information Report or the complaint, even if they are taken at their face value and accepted in their entirety do not prima facie constitute any offence or make out a case against the accused;

(b) where the allegations in the First Information Report and other materials, if any, accompanying the F.I.R. do not disclose a cognizable offence, justifying an investigation by police officers under Section 156(1) of the Code except under an order of a Magistrate within the purview of Section 155(2) of the Code;

(c) where the uncontroverted allegations made in the FIR or 'complaint and the evidence collected in support of the same do not disclose



WEB COPY

(ii) to resist the execution of any law, or of any legal process; or

(iii) to commit any mischief or criminal trespass, or other offence; or

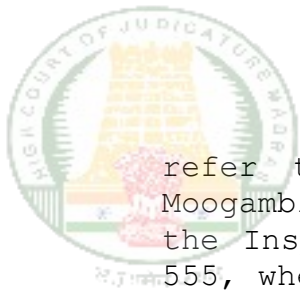
(iv) by means of criminal force, or show of criminal force, to any person to take or obtain possession of any property, or to deprive any person of the enjoyment of a right of way, or of the use of water or other incorporeal right of which he is in possession or enjoyment, or to enforce any right or supposed right; or

(v) by means of criminal force, or show of criminal force, to compel any person to do what he is not legally bound to do, or to omit to do what he is legally entitled to do.'

7. Only when the assembly fit into any of the above circumstances, it could be construed as unlawful. The materials collected by the prosecution do not show that the accused had shown any criminal force to commit any mischief, crime or any offence or by way of criminal force or tried to take possession of the property or right to use of incorporeal right which is in possession of enjoyment of others or rights.

8. Similarly, it is not the case of the prosecution that the accused has assembled to commit any offence. When the prosecution prima facie failed to establish that the assembly of five or more persons with a common object to commit any offence or any of the circumstances shown under Section 141, mere assembly of more than five persons cannot be construed that there is an unlawful assembly. Therefore, when the people gathered to show the protest in a democratic way, such a protest, in the absence of any ingredients of offence under Section 141 cannot be construed as unlawful assembly.

9. Similarly to attract the offence under Section 188 there must be disobedience to order duly promulgated by the public servant. In this case there is evidence available to show that the accused has assembled to resist or execution of any law and there is no whisper whatsoever available in the First Information Report or in the other materials to show that there were promulgation or there were any prohibitory order existed at the relevant point of time. In this regard it is relevant to



refer to a judgment of a Division Bench of this Court in Moogambigai S.Thirugnanasammantham and others Vs. State rep. by the Inspector of Police, Karur reported in 2021 0 Supreme [Mad] 555, wherein it has been held as follows:

WEB COPY

'.....

(9) When the allegations in the FIR and the materials collected by the prosecution does not disclose the commission of any offence and make out a case against the accused and the prosecution itself is instituted with an ulterior motive for wreaking vengeance, this Court can exercise power under Section 482 Cr.P.C. with regard to quashing of the charge sheet for the offence under Section 188 IPC, this Court in Jeevanandam and others Vs. State rep. by the Inspector of Police reported in 2018-2-L.W.(Crl) 606 has relied a judgment in V.Gowthaman and others Vs. State rep. by its Inspector of Police, St.Thomas Mount Police Station, Chennai reported in '2018 (4) CTC 252' and held that the cognizance taken by the Magistrate under Section 188 IPC is not permissible and therefore, the prosecution of the accused under Section 188 IPC stands quashed.'

10. Considering the above, this Court is of the view that mere launching of final report by the prosecution itself is not sufficient to reach to the conclusion that offences are made out and the materials collected by the prosecution do not support for proving the case and continuing the prosecution on shaky or without any materials is clear abuse of process of law.

11. Accordingly, this Criminal Original Petition is allowed and the First Information Report registered in Crime No.794 of 2018 against the petitioners on the file of the first respondent is quashed. Consequently, connected miscellaneous petition is closed.

Sd/-

Assistant Registrar(CS-IV)

// True Copy //

Sub Assistant Registrar

vrc

To

1. The Special Inspector of Police,
Perambalur Police Station,
Perambalur.



2. The Public Prosecutor,
High Court of Madras.

+1cc to Mr.I.Abdul Basith, Advocate SR.No.32940

Crl.O.P.No.11216 of 2022

SSI (CO)
CB(01/07/2022)