



BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED : 07.02.2022

CORAM :

WEB COPY

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE G.K.ILANTHIRAIYAN

Crl.O.P(MD)No.2575 of 2022

and

Crl.M.P(MD)No. 1915 of 2022

G.Kumaresan

...Petitioner/ Sole Accused

Vs.

1.The State represented by its

The Inspector of Police,
Vikkiramangalam Police Station,
Madurai District.

(Crime No.128 of 2018)

...1st Respondent/ Complainant

2.Sivabadhasekaran

The Manager,
Canara Bank,
Vikkiramangalam,
Madurai District.

Presently working at

The Manager,
Canara Bank (Syndicate Bank),
Theni Main Road, Kalavasal,
Madurai.

...2nd Respondent/
Defacto Complainant

Prayer: This Criminal Original Petition is filed under Section 482 of Cr.P.C., to call for the records relating to the impugned Charge Sheet in C.C.No.80 of 2021 on the file of the learned Judicial Magistrate Court No.II, Usilampatti, Madurai District and to quash the same as illegal, unconstitutional and arbitrary.

For Petitioner

: Mr.D.Pammela

For R1

: Mr.B.Thanga Aravindh

Govt. Advocate (Crl.Side)

O R D E R

This petition has been filed to quash the proceedings in C.C.No.80 of 2021 on the file of the learned Judicial Magistrate Court No.II, Usilampatti, Madurai District, thereby taken cognizance for the offences under Sections 409 of IPC, in Crime No.128 of 2018, as against this petitioner.



2.The case of the prosecution is that the petitioner was a Cashier (SWO) at Canara Bank, Vikkiramangalam Branch. On 12.06.2018, the petitioner took cash from Vault (Safe Room), but by mistake it was recorded as 69 pieces of Rs.2000/- notes instead of 169 pieces. By taking advantage of the mistake committed by the Double Lock Key Holders, the petitioner is said to have taken 100 pieces of Rs.2000/- notes and misappropriated a sum of Rs.2 Lakhs.

3.The learned Counsel appearing for the petitioner would submit that the petitioner is innocent and they have not committed any offence as alleged by the prosecution. Without any base, the first respondent police registered a case in Crime No.128 of 2018 for the offences under Sections 409 of IPC, as against the petitioner and the same has been taken cognizance in C.C.No.80 of 2021 on the file of the learned Judicial Magistrate Court No.II, Usilampatti, Madurai District. Hence he prayed to quash the same.

4.The learned Additional Public Prosecutor would submit that the trial has been commenced and some of the witnesses have been examined in this case.

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

6.It is relevant to rely upon the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India passed in ***Crl.A.No.579 of 2019*** dated ***02.04.2019*** in the case of ***Devendra Prasad Singh Vs. State of Bihar & Anr.***, as follows:-

" 12.So far as the second ground is concerned, we are of the view that the High Court while hearing the application under Section 482 of the Cr.P.C. had no jurisdiction to appreciate the statement of the witnesses and record a finding that there were inconsistencies in their statements and, therefore, there was no prima facie case made out against respondent No.2. In our view, this could be done only in the trial while deciding the issues on the merits or/and by the Appellate Court while deciding the appeal arising out of the final order passed by the Trial Court but not in Section 482 Cr.P.C. proceedings.

13.In view of the foregoing discussion, we allow the appeal, set aside the impugned order and restore the aforementioned complaint case to its original file for being proceeded with on merits in accordance with law.



7. Recently, the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dealing in respect of the very same issue in **Crl.A.No.1572 of 2019** dated 17.10.2019 in the case of **Central Bureau of Investigation Vs. Arvind Khanna**, wherein, it has been held as follows:

"19. After perusing the impugned order and on hearing the submissions made by the learned senior counsels on both sides, we are of the view that the impugned order passed by the High Court is not sustainable. In a petition filed under Section 482 of Cr.P.C., the High Court has recorded findings on several disputed facts and allowed the petition. Defence of the accused is to be tested after appreciating the evidence during trial. The very fact that the High Court, in this case, went into the most minute details, on the allegations made by the appellant-C.B.I., and the defence put-forth by the respondent, led us to a conclusion that the High Court has exceeded its power, while exercising its inherent jurisdiction under Section 482 Cr.P.C.

20. In our view, the assessment made by the High Court at this stage, when the matter has been taken cognizance by the Competent Court, is completely incorrect and uncalled for."

8. Further the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India also held in the order dated **02.12.2019** in **Crl.A.No.1817 of 2019** in the case of **M. Jayanthi Vs. K.R. Meenakshi & anr**, as follows:

"9. It is too late in the day to seek reference to any authority for the proposition that while invoking the power under Section 482 Cr.P.C for quashing a complaint or a charge, the Court should not embark upon an enquiry into the validity of the evidence available. All that the Court should see is as to whether there are allegations in the complaint which form the basis for the ingredients that constitute certain offences complained of. The Court may also be entitled to see (i) whether the preconditions requisite for taking cognizance have been complied with or not; and (ii) whether the allegations contained in the complaint, even if accepted in entirety, would not constitute the offence alleged.

.....

13. A look at the complaint filed by the appellant would show that the appellant had incorporated the ingredients necessary for prosecuting the respondents for the offences



alleged. The question whether the appellant will be able to prove the allegations in a manner known to law would arise only at a later stage....."

The above judgments are squarely applicable to this case and as such, the points raised by the petitioners cannot be considered by this Court under Section 482 Cr.P.C.

9. In view of the above discussion, this Court is not inclined to quash the proceedings in C.C.No.80 of 2021 on the file of the learned Judicial Magistrate Court No.II, Usilampatti, Madurai District. The petitioner is at liberty to raise all the grounds before the trial Court. The trial Court is directed to complete the trial within a period of six months from the date of receipt of a copy of this Order.

10. Accordingly, this criminal original petition is dismissed. Consequently, connected miscellaneous petition is also closed.

Sd/-

Assistant Registrar (AE)

// True Copy //

/ /2022

Sub Assistant Registrar(CS)

lr

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:

1. The Judicial Magistrate Court No.II, Usilampatti, Madurai District
2. The Inspector of Police, Vikkiramangalam Police Station, Madurai District.
3. The Additional Public Prosecutor, Madurai Bench of Madras High Court, Madurai.

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MA (CO)

KB(18.02.2022) 4P 4C

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