



BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED : 01.03.2022

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THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE G.K.ILANTHIRAIYAN

Crl.O.P(MD)No.20661 of 2021

and

Crl.M.P(MD)No. 11763 of 2021

T.Manoj Kumar ... Petitioner/ Sole Accused

Vs.

1.The State represented by
The Inspector of Police,
Chokkampatti Police Station,
Tirunelveli District.
(Crime No.200 of 2018)

... 1st Respondent/Complainant

2.Thangaraj

... 2nd Respondent/
Defacto Complainant

Prayer: Criminal Original Petition is filed under Section 482 Cr.P.C., to call for the records pursuant to the FIR in Crime No. 200 of 2018 pending on the file of the first respondent police station, Tirunelveli District and quash the same insofar as the petitioner is concerned.

For Petitioner : Mr.S.P.Naveen Kumar

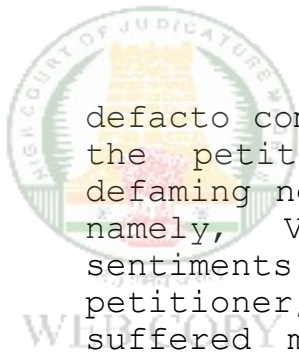
For Respondents : Mr.B.Thanga Aravindh

Government Advocate(Crl.Side) for R.1

ORDER

The Criminal Original Petition has been filed to quash the FIR as against the petitioner/ Sole Accused in Crime No. 200 of 2018 on the file of the first respondent for the alleged offences under Sections 294(b), 153A(1)(a) and 505(1)(c) IPC and Section 67 of Information Technology Act, 2000.

2. The learned counsel appearing for the petitioner would submit that the crux of the complaint lodged by the second respondent / defacto complainant is that he is residing in the above said address along with his family. The case of prosecution is that the defacto complainant belongs to the Hindu Pallar Community. On 28.08.2018, at about 7.30 pm, a forward video message came to the



defacto complainant mobile Whatsapp number. After seeing the message the petitioner introduced himself and propagated obscene and defaming news about the Pallar Caste Community and also the leader, namely, Veeran Sundaralingam insulting them, inciting caste sentiments. Due to the illegal and cantankerous act of the petitioner, the second respondent as well as others have very much suffered mentally as well as physically. Since they are from respectable family in their locality, these kind of unwanted incidents make them very stressed and put to untold sufferings.

3.The learned Counsel appearing for the petitioner would submit that the petitioner is innocent and he has not committed any offence as alleged by the prosecution. Without any base, the first respondent police registered a case in Crime No. 200 of 2018 for the offences under Sections 294(b), 153A(1)(a) and 505(1)(c) IPC and Section 67 of Information Technology Act, 2000 as against the petitioner.

4.The learned Government Advocate (Criminal Side) would submit that the investigation is completed and the respondent police are about to file the final report before the concerned court.

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

6. It is seen from the First Information Report that there are specific allegation as against the petitioner, which has to be investigated. Further the FIR is not an encyclopedia and it need not contain all facts. Further, it cannot be quashed in the threshold. This Court finds that the FIR discloses prima facie commission of cognizable offence and as such this Court cannot interfere with the investigation. The investigating machinery has to step in to investigate, grab and unearth the crime in accordance with the procedures prescribed in the Code.

7.It is also relevant to rely upon the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India passed in ***Crl.A.No.255 of 2019*** dated **12.02.2019 - Sau. Kamal Shivaji Pokarnekar vs. the State of Maharashtra & ors.**, as follows:-

"4. The only point that arises for our consideration in this case is whether the High Court was right in setting aside the order by which process was issued. It is settled law that the Magistrate, at the stage of taking cognizance and summoning, is required to apply his judicial mind only with a view to taking cognizance of the offence, or in other words, to find out whether a prima facie case has been made out for summoning the accused persons. The learned Magistrate is not required to evaluate



the merits of the material or evidence in support of the complaint, because the Magistrate must not undertake the exercise to find out whether the materials would lead to a conviction or not.

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5. Quashing the criminal proceedings is called for only in a case where the complaint does not disclose any offence, or is frivolous, vexatious, or oppressive. If the allegations set out in the complaint do not constitute the offence of which cognizance has been taken by the Magistrate, it is open to the High Court to quash the same. It is not necessary that a meticulous analysis of the case should be done before the Trial to find out whether the case would end in conviction or acquittal. If it appears on a reading of the complaint and consideration of the allegations therein, in the light of the statement made on oath that the ingredients of the offence are disclosed, there would be no justification for the High Court to interfere.

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9. Having heard the learned Senior Counsel and examined the material on record, we are of the considered view that the High Court ought not to have set aside the order passed by the Trial Court issuing summons to the Respondents. A perusal of the complaint discloses that prima facie, offences that are alleged against the Respondents. The correctness or otherwise of the said allegations has to be decided only in the Trial. At the initial stage of issuance of process it is not open to the Courts to stifle the proceedings by entering into the merits of the contentions made on behalf of the accused. Criminal complaints cannot be quashed only on the ground that the allegations made therein appear to be of a civil nature. If the ingredients of the offence alleged against the accused are prima facie made out in the complaint, the criminal proceeding shall not be interdicted."

8. In view of the above discussion, this Court is not inclined to quash the First Information Report. Hence this Criminal Original

<https://hcservices.ecourts.gov.in/hcservices/>



Petition stands dismissed. However, the first respondent police is directed to complete the investigation and file final report before the concerned Magistrate, within a period of eight weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of this Order. Consequently, connected miscellaneous petition is closed.

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Sd/-

Assistant Registrar (Records)

// True Copy //

/ /2022

Sub Assistant Registrar(CS)

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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 Inspector of Police,
Chokkampatti Police Station,
Tirunelveli District.
2. The Additional Public Prosecutor,
Madurai Bench of Madras High Court,
Madurai.

Crl.O.P(MD)No.20661 of 2021
01.03.2022

RD(31.03.2022) 4P 3C