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Crl.O.P.No.9555 of 2023

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 28.04.2023

CORAM

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE **G.CHANDRASEKHARAN**

**Crl.O.P.No.9555 of 2023**

1. M.Elangovan
2. L.P.Mani

... Petitioners

Vs.

1. The Deputy Superintendent of Police,  
Ranipet District.
2. The District Superintendent of Police,  
Office of the Superintendent of Police,  
Ranipettai District.
3. The Inspector of Police,  
Ranipet Police Station,  
Ranipet.

... Respondents

**PRAYER:** This Criminal Original Petition filed under Section 482 of Cr.P.C., to direct the respondents 1 and 3 not to harass the petitioners.

For Petitioners : Mr.A.Masood Ahmed

For Respondents : Mr.S.Santhosh  
Government Advocate (Criminal side)



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**ORDER**

This Criminal Original Petition has been filed directing the respondents 1 and 3 not to harass the petitioners.

2. The learned counsel for the petitioners submitted that the petitioners are unnecessarily harassed by the third respondent, in connection with the criminal case, in which the petitioners have no connection. Therefore, this petition.

3. When the matter is taken up, the learned Government Advocate (Crl.side) submitted that there is no petition or FIR pending against the petitioners. But the petitioners have given a complaint against one Sivasankari and on that basis, enquiry is pending in C.No.30/ADSP/HQRB/RPT/2023 dated 19.04.2023.

4. Considered the submissions and perused the records.

5. 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



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harassment by the police under the guise of investigation is brought to its notice.

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6. 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.

7. In order to meet 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 summon/notice, specifying a particular date and time for appearing before them for such an enquiry/investigation.

b) The respondent/Police is 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



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called upon for enquiry/investigation.

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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) If any cognizable offence is committed, then it is open to the respondent police to take appropriate action or else they should not interfere with the civil dispute between the parties.

8. With the above directions, this Criminal Original Petition is disposed of.

**28.04.2023**

Internet : Yes / No

Index : Yes / No

Speaking/Non speaking order

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To

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Ranipet District.
2. The District Superintendent of Police,  
Office of the Superintendent of Police,  
Ranipettai District.
3. The Inspector of Police,  
Ranipet Police Station,  
Ranipet.
4. The Public Prosecutor  
Madras High Court.



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**G.CHANDRASEKHARAN,J.**

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