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CRL.O.P.No.9908 of 2023

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 04.05.2023

CORAM:

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE **G.K.ILANTHIRAIYAN**

CRL.O.P.No.9908 of 2023

L.Sasikumar

... Petitioner/Accused

Vs.

1.The State rep by

The Asst. Commissioner of Police,

CCB (Job Racket),

Greater Chennai Police,

Chennai - 600 007.

Crime No.239/2022

... 1st Respondent / Complainant

2.Mariya Thamizh Selvam

... 2nd Respondent / Defacto Complainant

PRAYER: Criminal Original Petition filed under Section 482 of Cr.P.C. praying to call for the records and quash the First Information Report in Crime No.239 of 2022 on the file of the first respondent, pending investigation.

For Petitioner : Mr.F.Wellington

For Respondent 1 : Mr.N.S.Suganthan,
Government Advocate (Crl. Side)

ORDER

This petition has been filed to quash the F.I.R. in Crime No.239 of 2022 registered by the first respondent police for offences under Sections 406, 420, 506(1) & 34 of IPC, as against the petitioner.



CRL.O.P.No.9908 of 2023

2. The case of the prosecution is that the second respondent's relative one Dr.I.Arulandhu, who is arrayed as second accused in this case, told his mother that he knows the petitioner/first accused, who is an I.A.S. officer and working as South Zone Director in NIA and if she pays Rs.37,00,000/-, he can get a job in News and Advertisement Department in Tamil Nadu as APRO. Having belief that the petitioner will get the job to the second respondent, the second respondent arranged Rs.37,00,000/- from his mother's bank account out of her retirement benefit and pledged his wife's jewels and he and paid the entire amount of Rs.37,00,000/- on various dates. As the second respondent was not getting any job, he approached the petitioner and the petitioner told him that he cannot return the money and life threatened him. Hence, he launched the complaint.

3. The learned Counsel appearing for the petitioner would submit that the petitioner is an innocent person 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.239 of 2022 for the offences under Sections 406, 420, 506(1) & 34 of IPC, as against the petitioner. Hence he prayed to quash the same.



CRL.O.P.No.9908 of 2023

4. The learned Government Advocate (Crl. side) would submit that the investigation is almost completed and the final report is yet to be filed.

5. Heard Mr.F.Willington, learned counsel appearing for the petitioner and Mr.N.S.Suganthan, learned Government Advocate (Crl. side) appearing for the first respondent.

6. It is seen from the First Information Report that there are specific allegations as against the petitioner to attract the offence, which has to be investigated in depth. Further the FIR is not an encyclopedia and it need not contain all facts and 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. In this regard, it is 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** in the case of **Sau. Kamal Shivaji Pokarnekar vs. the State of Maharashtra & ors.**, as follows:-



WEB COPY



CRL.O.P.No.9908 of 2023

"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.

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.

.....



CRL.O.P.No.9908 of 2023

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. Accordingly, this Criminal Original Petition stands **dismissed**.

04.05.2023

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Index : Yes / No

Speaking / Non Speaking order



CRL.O.P.No.9908 of 2023

To

1. The Asst. Commissioner of Police,
CCB (Job Racket),
Greater Chennai Police,
Chennai - 600 007.

2. The Public Prosecutor,
High Court, Madras.



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CRL.O.P.No.9908 of 2023

G.K.ILANTHIRAIYAN, J.
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Crl.O.P.No.9908 of 2023

04.05.2023