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CrI.O.P.No.9607 of 2023

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 28.04.2023

CORAM

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

CrI.O.P.No.9607 of 2023

S.Meenatchi

... Petitioner

Vs.

1. The Commissioner of Police,
Tambaram Police Commissioner Office,
Solinganallur.
2. The Deputy Commissioner of Police,
Tambaram Police Commissioner Officer,
Solinganallur.
3. The Assistant Commissioner of Police,
Tambaram Police Commissioner Officer,
Solinganallur.
4. The Inspector of Police,
T-17, Perumbakkam Police Station,
Perumbakkam.

... Respondents

PRAYER: This Criminal Original Petition filed under Section 482 of Cr.P.C., to issue a direction to the respondent police Not to Harass the petitioner or summon her for enquiry without due process of law or without any basis.



Crl.O.P.No.9607 of 2023

For Petitioner : M/s. C.S.Kiran
For Respondents : Mr.S.Santhosh
Government Advocate (Criminal side)

ORDER

This Criminal Original Petition has been filed to issue a direction to the respondent police Not to Harass the petitioner or summon her for enquiry without due process of law or without any basis.

2. The learned counsel for the petitioner submitted that the petitioner is unnecessarily harassed by the fourth respondent, on the complaint given by one Ramamurthy. Therefore, this petition.

3. When the matter is taken up, the learned Government Advocate (Crl.side) submitted that one Ramamurthy gave a complaint against the petitioner alleging that the petitioner is illegally retaining the property documents of the complainant. On the basis of the complaint, enquiry is pending in C.S.R.No.288 of 2023 dated 24.03.2023.

4. Considered the submissions and perused the records.



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

6. In the present case in hand, the petitioner has 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



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number, date of complaint and the name of the complainant.

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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 called upon for enquiry/investigation.

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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2. The Deputy Commissioner of Police,
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Solinganallur.
3. The Assistant Commissioner of Police,
Tambaram Police Commissioner Officer,
Solinganallur.
4. The Inspector of Police,
T-17, Perumbakkam Police Station,
Perumbakkam.
5. The Public Prosecutor
Madras High Court.

G.CHANDRASEKHARAN,J.

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