



W.P.No.22217 of 2023

W.P.No.22217 of 2023
and W.M.P.No.15442 of 2023

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N.ANAND VENKATESH.,J.

Mr.A.Gopinath, learned Government Advocate (Crl.Side) takes notice on behalf of 1st respondent. Notice to the 2nd respondent returnable by six weeks. Private notice is also permitted.

2. This is a case where the petitioner, who was working as a Forest Ranger, had questioned the persons who had come to the Guest house at Valparai, regarding their movement beyond 10.30 p.m, which was not permissible in that forest area. Howsoever powerful post a person may hold, it must be kept in kind that law applies to everyone equally and what cannot be done by others under similar circumstances, also cannot be done by that person or his family members. This Court finds that the very initiation of criminal proceedings against petitioner is attended with malafides. A *prima facie* case has been made out. There shall be a stay of investigation in Cr.No.151 of 2021, pending disposal of this Criminal Original Petition.

Post the case after six weeks.

18.01.2024



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