



Crl.OP.No.34035 of 2025

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 16.12.2025

CORAM:

THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE **A.D.JAGADISH CHANDIRA**

Crl.OP.No.34035 of 2025

Vignesh

...Petitioner

Vs.

The State Rep. By

1. The Inspector of Police,
AWPS – Perambalur,
Perambalur.
(Cr.No.9 of 2025)

2. Jayanthi

...Respondents

Criminal Original Petition filed under Section 482 of Cr.P.C./528 of BNSS, 2023 to quash the proceedings in Spl.S.C.No.70 of 2025 on the file of the learned Sessions Judge, Mahila Court, Perambalur.

For Petitioner : Mr.A.Kripakaran
For Respondents : Mr.K.M.D.Muhilan
Additional Public Prosecutor for R1

ORDER

This criminal original petition has been filed seeking to set aside the charge sheet in Spl.S.C.No.70 of 2025 on the file of the learned Sessions



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Judge, Mahila Court, Perambalur, filed for the offences under Sections 5(i) and 5(j)(ii) r/w. 6 of the POCSO Act, 2012.

2. The victim and the accused are related. The petitioner was in a relationship with the victim, due to which, the victim became pregnant. While so, the de facto complainant, who is the mother of the victim girl, has given a complaint before the first respondent Police.

3. The learned counsel for the petitioner submits that pursuant to the registration of the First Information Report, the petitioner and the victim girl got married on 16.11.2025 which was also subsequently registered before the Sub Registrar, Valikandapuram on 27.11.2025 and they are living together as husband and wife and the victim has also delivered a child. Now, the victim and her mother / second respondent herein have compromised the matter and they have also filed separate affidavits dated 16.12.2025 before this Court.

4. The learned counsel for the second respondent / de facto complainant has also not chosen to controvert the submissions advanced on



behalf of the petitioner.

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5. The learned Additional Public Prosecutor appearing on behalf of the 1st respondent-Police submitted that though the parties entered into a compromise while this case is pending, this Court, taking into account the seriousness of the offences, has to consider the issue as to whether offences of this nature can be quashed on the ground of compromise between parties.

6. Ms.K.Rajathi, WHC-772, AWPS-Perambalur, was present before this Court at the time of hearing and she has identified the parties.

7. The main issue that requires the consideration of this Court is as to whether this Court can quash the criminal proceedings involving non-compoundable offences pending against the petitioner.

8. The Supreme Court, in a very recent judgment in **K. Kirubakaran vs. State of Tamil Nadu [2025 INSC 1272]**, in which the appellant was convicted for the offences under Sections 366 IPC and Section 6 of the POCSO Act, pursuant to the compromise entered into between the



parties, by commencing the judgment with the quote “*The final cause of law is the welfare of society*” of Benjamin N. Cardozo, Former Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, and finding that the crime was not the result of lust but love, quashed the proceedings against the appellant invoking Section 142 of the Constitution of India. The relevant paragraphs of the said judgment read as under:

“5. The only question which remains to be decided is whether the proceedings should be quashed in the present case, considering that the appellant is convicted of a heinous offence.

6. We are conscious of the fact that a crime is not merely a wrong against an individual but against society as a whole. When an offence is committed, it wounds the collective conscience of the society and therefore the society, acting through its elected lawmakers, determines what would be the punishment for such an offence and how an offender should be dealt with, to deter its recurrence. The criminal law is, thus, a manifestation of the sovereign will of the society. However, the administration of such law is not divorced from the practical realities. Rendering justice demands a nuanced approach. This Court tailors its decisions to the specifics of each case: with firmness and severity wherever necessary and it is merciful when warranted. It is also in the best interest of society to bring a dispute to an end, wherever possible. We draw inspiration from Cardozo, J. to hold that the law aims to ensure not just punishment of the guilty, but also harmony and restoration of the social order.

7. With such perspective in mind, we need to proceed to balance the competing interests of justice, deterrence, and rehabilitation.

8. The founding fathers of the Constitution conferred this Court with the extraordinary power to do “complete justice” in proper cases. This constitutional power stands apart from all other powers and is intended to avoid situations of injustice being caused by the rigid application of law.



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9. Per the law made by the legislature, the appellant having been found guilty of a heinous offence, the proceedings in the present case on the basis of a compromise between the appellant and his wife cannot be quashed. But ignoring the cry of the appellant's wife for compassion and empathy will not, in our opinion, serve the ends of justice. Even the most serious offenders of law do receive justice moderated by compassion from the courts, albeit in appropriate cases. Given the peculiar facts and circumstances here, a balanced approach combining practicality and empathy is necessary. The appellant and the victim are not only legally married, they are also in their family way. While considering the offence committed by the appellant punishable under the POCSO Act, we have discerned that the crime was not the result of lust but love. The victim of crime herself has expressed her desire to live a peaceful and stable family life with the appellant, upon whom she is dependent, without the appellant carrying the indelible mark on his forehead of being an offender. Continuation of the criminal proceedings and the appellant's incarceration would only disrupt this familial unit and cause irreparable harm to the victim, the infant child, and the fabric of society itself.

10. We are, thus, persuaded to hold that this is a case where the law must yield to the cause of justice.

11. Accordingly, resting on the foregoing considerations, the developments subsequent to the trial, and in the interest of rendering complete justice, we deem it appropriate to invoke our powers under Article 142 of the Constitution of India to quash the criminal proceedings against the appellant including the conviction and sentence. Ordered accordingly.

12. Also, bearing in mind the interests of the appellant's wife and child, we deem it appropriate to subject the appellant to the specific condition of not deserting his wife and child and also to maintain them for the rest of their life with dignity. If, in future, there be any default on the appellant's part and the same is brought to the notice of this Court by his wife or their child or the complainant, the consequences may not be too palatable for the appellant.

13. We make the interim order granting benefit to the appellant of exemption from surrendering absolute and discharge him from the bail bonds.

14. The appeal is, accordingly, allowed.



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In the peculiar facts and circumstances of this case, we are of the considered view that the conviction and sentence of the appellant who is maternal uncle of the prosecutrix deserves to be set aside in view of the subsequent events that have been brought to the notice of this Court. This Court cannot shut its eyes to the ground reality and disturb the happy family life of the appellant and the prosecutrix. We have been informed about the custom in Tamil Nadu of the marriage of a girl with the maternal uncle.

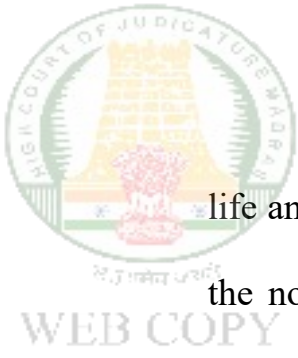
For the aforesaid mentioned reasons, the conviction and sentence of the appellant is set aside in the peculiar facts of the case and shall not be treated as a precedent. The appeal is accordingly, disposed of. Pending application(s), if any, shall stand disposed of.

In case, the appellant does not take proper care of the prosecutrix, she or the State on behalf of the prosecutrix can move this Court for modification of this Order.” (emphasis supplied by this Court)

10. Since the aforesaid decisions apply on all fours to the facts and circumstances obtaining in this case, this Court is inclined to quash the Spl.S.C.No.70 of 2025 on the file of the learned Sessions Judge, Mahila Court, Perambalur, for the offences punishable under Sections 5(i) and 5(j) (ii) r/w. 6 of the POCSO Act, 2012, in exercise of its jurisdiction under Section 482 of Cr.P.C./528 of the BNSS.

11. Accordingly, this criminal original petition is allowed and Spl.S.C.No.70 of 2025 on the file of the learned Sessions Judge, Mahila Court, Perambalur, is quashed. This Courts hopes and trusts that the petitioner will take due care of the victim and the child for the rest of their

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life and in the event of any default on his part in this regard being brought to the notice of this Court, the consequences that would befall the petitioner would be very serious. The separate affidavits dated 16.12.2025 filed by the victim and her mother, second respondent for compromising the offences, shall form part of the records.

12. Before parting, this Court hastens to add that this Court is not oblivious of the fact that the Supreme Court, in **K. Kirubakaran**, *supra*, had invoked Article 142 of the Constitution of India and quashed the criminal proceedings against the appellant. However, since the facts obtaining in this case being akin to the facts in **K. Kirubakaran**, *supra*, this order is passed.

16.12.2025

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NCC : Yes/No



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To:

1. The The Inspector of Police,
AWPS – Perambalur,
Perambalur.
2. The Public Prosecutor,
Madras High Court.
3. The Sessions Judge, Mahila Court, Perambalur



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A.D.JAGADISH CHANDIRA, J.

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