

(2021) 03 RAJ CK 0006

In the Rajasthan High Court

Case No : Criminal Miscellaneous (Petition) No. 84 Of 2021

Madan Lal Meena

APPELLANT

Vs

State Of Rajasthan And Ors

RESPONDENT

Date of Decision : 04-03-2021

Acts Referred:

Code Of Criminal Procedure, 1973 — Section 155(2), 156(1), 164, 397, 401, 482
Indian Penal Code, 1860 — Section 143, 323, 354, 452, 506
Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 — Section 3(1)(w)(i), 3(2)(va)
Constitution of India, 1950 — Article 226

Citation : (2021) 03 RAJ CK 0006

Hon'ble Judges : Manoj Kumar Garg, J

Bench : Single Bench

Advocate : Niranjana Lal Joshi, Anees Bhurat

Final Decision : Dismissed

Judgement

The present petition under Section 482 Cr.P.C. has been filed by the petitioner for quashing of FIR No.95/2020 registered at Police Station Nal,

District Bikaner for the offences under Sections 323, 452, 354, 506, 143 IPC R/w Sections 3(1)(w)(i) & 3(2)(va) of SC/ST Act.

Counsel for the petitioner has submitted that false FIR has been lodged against the petitioner and after investigation, police has also disbelieved the

story of the prosecution and only found the present petitioner guilty of offences under Sections 341 and 323 of IPC. Thus the impugned FIR is per-se

illegal and deserves to be quashed.

Per contra, learned Public Prosecutor has submitted a report dated 02.03.2021 received from the concerned Police Station wherein it has been

mentioned that the injured Suman received injuries on her body during the

incident which is apparent from her injury report. Further injured Suman also stated in her statement recorded under Section 164 of Cr.P.C about the molestation made by the accused-petitioner in her kitchen. Thus in the investigation, the police found the offences under Sections 341 & 323 of IPC to be proved against the present petitioner and prepared the charge-sheet. At this stage the FIR is not liable to be quashed.

I have considered the rival arguments and carefully gone through the material on record.

From the perusal of the FIR, prima facie offence is made out against the petitioner, therefore, at this preliminary stage, it cannot be said that FIR is liable to be quashed.

Hon'ble Supreme Court in the case of State of Haryana & Ors. Vs. Choudhary Bhajanlal & Ors. : 1992 Suppl. (1) SCC 335], laid down guidelines for exercising inherent powers under Section 482 Cr.P.C. to quash FIR and criminal proceedings. The Court held:

102. In the backdrop of the interpretation of the various relevant provisions of the Code under Chapter XIV and of the principles of law enunciated by this Court in a series of decisions relating to the exercise of the extraordinary power under Article 226 or the inherent powers under Section 482 of the Code which we have extracted and reproduced above, we give the following categories of cases by way of illustration wherein such power could be exercised either to prevent abuse of the process of any court or otherwise to secure the ends of justice, though it may not be possible to lay down any precise, clearly defined and sufficiently channelised and inflexible guidelines or rigid formulae and to give an exhaustive list of myriad kinds of cases wherein such power should be exercised.

1. Where the allegations made in the first information report or the complaint, even if they are taken at their face value and accepted in their entirety do not prima- facie constitute any offence or make out a case against the accused.

2. Where the allegations in the first information report and other materials, if any, accompanying the FIR do not disclose a cognizable offence, justifying an investigation by police officers under Section 156(1) of the Code except under an order of a Magistrate within the purview of Section 155(2) of the Code.

3. Where the uncontroverted allegations made in the FIR or complaint and the evidence collected in support of the same do not disclose the commission of any offence and make out a case against the accused.

4. Where, the allegations in the FIR do not constitute a cognizable offence but constitute only a non- cognizable offence, no investigation is permitted by a police officer without an order of a Magistrate as contemplated under Section 155(2) of the Code.

5. Where the allegations made in the FIR or complaint are so absurd and inherently improbable on the basis of which no prudent person can ever reach a just conclusion that there is sufficient ground for proceeding against the accused.

6. Where there is an express legal bar engrafted in any of the provisions of the Code or the concerned Act (under which a criminal proceeding is instituted) to the institution and continuance of the proceedings and/or where there is a specific provision in the Code or the concerned Act, providing efficacious redress for the grievance of the aggrieved party.

7. Where a criminal proceeding is manifestly attended with mala fide and/or where the proceeding is maliciously instituted with an ulterior motive for wreaking vengeance on the accused and with a view to spite him due to private and personal grudge.

103. We also give a note of caution to the effect that the power of quashing a criminal proceeding should be exercised very sparingly and with circumspection and that too in the rarest of rare cases; that the court will not be justified in embarking upon an enquiry as to the reliability or genuineness or otherwise of the allegations made in the FIR or the complaint and that the extraordinary or inherent powers do not confer an arbitrary jurisdiction on the court to act according to its whim or caprice.

Yet again, Supreme Court, in case of Janta Dal Vs. H.S. Choudhary : (1992) 4 SCC 305], while relying on Choudhary Bhajanlal's case (supra), held:

This inherent power conferred by Section 482 of the Code should not be exercised to stifle a legitimate prosecution. The High Court being the highest Court of a State should normally refrain from giving a premature decision in a case wherein the entire facts are extremely incomplete and hazy, more so when the evidence has not been collected and produced before the Court and the issues involved whether factual or legal are of great magnitude

and cannot be seen in their true perspective without sufficient material. Of course, no hard and fast rule can be laid down in regard to the cases in

which the High Court will exercise its extraordinary jurisdiction of quashing the proceedings at any stage. This Court in *State of Haryana v. Ch.*

Bhajan Lal and Ors., to which both of us were parties have dealt with this question at length and enunciated the law listing out the circumstances

under which the High Court can exercise its jurisdiction in quashing proceedings. We do not, therefore, think it necessary in the present case to

extensively deal with the import and intendment of the powers under Sections 397, 401 and 482 of the Code.

In another decision in the case of *Pratibha Vs. Rameshwari Devi & Ors*, JT 2007 (11) 122, the Hon'ble Apex Court held that while exercising the

extraordinary jurisdiction under Section 482 Cr.P.C., the High Court cannot go beyond the allegations made in the F.I.R or rely upon extraneous

consideration. For the purpose of finding out the commission of a cognizable offence, the High Court is only required to look into the allegations made

in the complaint or the F.I.R.

In another case of *N. Soundaram Vs. P.K. Pounraj & Anr.* : (2014) 10 SCC 616], Supreme Court, while reiterating the principles laid down in *Bhajan*

Lal (supra) on scope of exercise of powers under Section 482 Cr.P.C., held:

It is well settled by this Court in a catena of cases that the power under Section 482 CrPC has to be exercised sparingly and cautiously to prevent the

abuse of process of any Court and to secure the ends of justice [See *State of Haryana v. Bhajanlal*]. The inherent power should not be exercised to

stifle a legitimate prosecution. The High Court should refrain from giving a prima facie decision unless there are compelling circumstances to do so.

Taking the allegations and the complaint as they were, without adding or subtracting anything, if no offence was made out, only then the High Court

would be justified in quashing the proceedings in the exercise of its power under Section 482, CrPC [See *MCD v. Ram Kishan Rohtagi*]. An

investigation should not be shut out at the threshold if the allegations have some substance. [See *Vinod Raghuvanshi v. Ajay Arora*].

In the facts and circumstances of the case so also in the light of the judicial pronouncements of Hon'ble Apex Court, no case for quashing of FIR

No.95/2020 registered at Police Station Nal, District Bikaner. Hence, this misc.

petition is hereby dismissed.

Stay petition is also dismissed.