
(2007) 12 P&H CK 0156

In the Punjab And Haryana At Chandigarh

Case No : Criminal Miscellaneous No. 24897-M of 2006

R. Srikrishnan

APPELLANT

Vs

State of Haryana and Another

RESPONDENT

Date of Decision : 13-12-2007

Acts Referred:

Criminal Procedure Code, 1973 (CrPC) — Section 482
Insecticides Act, 1968 — Section 17, 18, 29, 3(k)(i), 33

Citation : (2008) 2 RCR(Criminal) 748

Hon'ble Judges : L.N. Mittal, J

Bench : Single Bench

Advocate : Arun Chandra, for the Appellant; Ajay Ghanghas, Dy. Advocate General, Haryana, for the Respondent

Final Decision : Allowed

Judgement

L.N. Mittal, J.—R. Srikrishnan has filed the instant petition u/s 482 of the Code of Criminal Procedure for quashing complaint No. 2502 dated 5.8.1999 (Annexure P-1) pending in the Court of learned Chief Judicial Magistrate, Hisar under Sections 3(k)(i), 17, 18 and 33 punishable u/s 29 of the Insecticides Act, 1968 along with summoning order dated 5.8.1999 (Annexure P-2) and all consequent proceedings arising therefrom.

2. According to the prosecution version, sample of pesticide dimethoate 30% EC manufactured by M/s. E.I.D. Parry (India) Ltd., where the Petitioner is working as Executive, Quality Control, was seized from the dealer by Assistant Plant Protection Officer and was found to be misbranded having 27.13% dimethoate as against the declared/labelled 30%. Accordingly, impugned complaint (Annexure P-1) u/s 29 of the Insecticide Act 1968 and the Rules made thereunder for violation of various provisions of the Insecticides Act, was instituted against the Petitioner and the aforesaid manufacturer.

3. On Petitioner's application, second part of the sample was ordered to be sent to Central Insecticides Laboratory, Faridabad.

4. Learned Counsel for the Petitioner contends that for no fault on the part of the Petitioner, he has been deprived of his valuable right to get the second part of the sample analyzed from Central Insecticides Laboratory, and therefore, the Petitioner cannot be prosecuted. There is considerable merit in the contention. The Petitioner has a right to get the second sample analysed from the Central Insecticides Laboratory, Faridabad, so as to establish his innocence, but second part of the sample sent by Chief Judicial Magistrate, to Central Insecticides Laboratory, Faridabad never reached the said Laboratory. The Petitioner has thus been deprived of his aforesaid valuable right and, therefore, he cannot be prosecuted for the alleged offence on the basis of the report of Public Analyst alone.

5. In spite of several opportunities, the State has not been able to trace the whereabouts of the second part of the sample allegedly sent by Chief Judicial Magistrate to the Central Insecticides Laboratory, Faridabad. However, even if the said second part of the sample is now traced, it would serve no purpose because shelf life of the pesticide lapsed long ago as the sample as seized on 10.7.1998 i.e. more than nine years ago and its (sic) that the second part of the sample has not been analysed by Central Insecticides Laboratory, Faridabad in spite of requisite application moved by the Petitioner which was allowed by learned Chief Judicial Magistrate. In view of the aforesaid, instant petition is allowed and the impugned complaint (Annexure P-1) along with all consequential proceedings arising therefrom is quashed.