

*CrI.O.P.(MD)No.406 of 2025*

BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

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DATED : 04.03.2026

CORAM:

**THE HONOURABLE MR JUSTICE R.VIJAYAKUMAR**

CrI.O.P.(MD)No.406 of 2025

and

CrI.M.P(MD)No.263 of 2025

M.Barani Dharan

... Petitioner

Vs.

1.State of Tamil Nadu  
rep.by the Inspector of Police,  
Srirangam Police Station,  
Trichy City.  
Crime No.2182 of 2023.

2.S.Vennila,  
Sub Inspector of Police,  
Srirangam Police Station,  
Trichy City.

... Respondents

**PRAYER** : Petition filed under Section 528 B.N.S.S., to call for the records pertaining to the impugned Crime No.2182 of 2023 on the file of the first respondent police and quash the same as illegal as against the petitioner.

For Petitioner : Mr.Aayiram K.Selvakumar

For Respondents : Mr.B.Thanga Aravindh,

Government Advocate (CrI.Side), for R1.



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Crl.O.P.(MD)No.406 of 2025

## **ORDER**

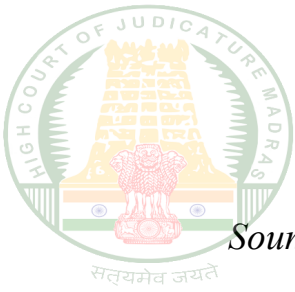
This Criminal Original Petition has been filed to quash the FIR in Crime No.2182 of 2023 on the file of the first respondent police.

2.The petitioner is the sole accused in Crime No.2182 of 2023 on the file of the first respondent Police, which has been registered for the offences under Sections 153A, 504, 505(1)(b) and 505 (2) of IPC.

3. As per the case, the petitioner, who is a law student at that time, had made a post in his Facebook to the effect that the statue of E.V.R.Periyar, which has been installed in front of Srirangam Temple, had to be broken and removed.

4. Pending quash petition, this Court has directed the petitioner to file an affidavit to the effect that he had realized the mistake and it has been done unintentionally. In compliance of the same, the petitioner has filed an affidavit. Paragraph Nos.4 and 5 of the said affidavit are extracted as follows :

*“4. I further submit that I am pursuing law degree in the*



*CrI.O.P.(MD)No.406 of 2025*

*Soundarya College of Law, Bengaluru wherein I am pursuing 4<sup>th</sup> year*

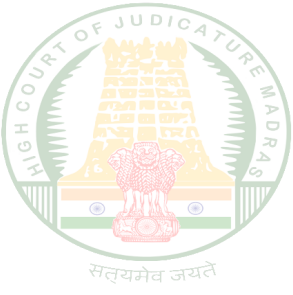
*now. The present case would be the great barrier in my future carrier.*

*Though I did it unintentionally, I realized the mistake now.*

*5. I respectfully submit that I assure and undertake that the same mistake would not happen in future at any cost. Moreover, I will be more vigilant with respect to posting of social media hereafter. Unless the quash petition is allowed, I would be put into great loss and hardship and my future carrier would be totally shattered.”*

5.As per Facebook post of the petitioner, the petitioner has only expressed his views that such the said statue would affect the religious sentiments of Hindus. No untoward incidents has happened, pursuant to the said Face book post. The petitioner was studying law in Bangalore at the time of post. Now he has completed his studies and he is about to get enrolled. It is only an expression of opinion and cannot be considered to have promoted enmity between two groups.

6.Considering the above said circumstances and the affidavit filed by the petitioner, this Court is of the considered opinion that no useful purpose would be served in continuing the prosecution as against the petitioner.



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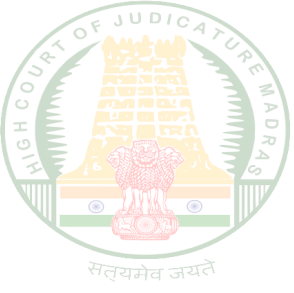
7. In view of the above said facts, FIR in Crime No.2182 of 2023 on the file of the first respondent police stands quashed. Accordingly, this Criminal Original Petition is allowed. Consequently, connected Miscellaneous Petition is closed.

**04.03.2026**

NCC : Yes / No  
Index : Yes / No  
Internet : Yes / No  
das

**TO:-**

- 1.The Inspector of Police,  
Srirangam Police Station,  
Trichy City.
- 2.The Additional Public Prosecutor,  
Madurai Bench of Madras High Court,  
Madurai.



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*CrI.O.P.(MD)No.406 of 2025*

**R.VIJAYAKUMAR, J.**

das

Order made in  
CrI.O.P.(MD)No.406 of 2025  
and  
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