

THE HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE M.S.K.JAISWAL

Crl.P.M.P.No.9149 of 2016
and
CRIMINAL PETITION No.8062 of 2016

COMMON ORDER:

The criminal petition is filed under Section 482 Cr.P.C. to quash the proceedings in C.C.No.385 of 2015 on the file of XIII Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Hyderabad, registered for the offences punishable under sections 498-A, 324 IPC and u/s.3 and 4 of Dowry Prohibition Act, against the petitioners/A1 to A5.

2. The averments in the charge sheet would disclose that the marriage of de facto complainant with A1 was performed on 19.02.2006 at Hyderabad and out of their wedlock, they blessed with a male child. Thereafter, all the accused started harassing her physically and mentally by demanding additional dowry of Rs.5 lakhs and also used to beat her mercilessly.

3. Today, when the matter came up for hearing, the second respondent/de facto complainant and the petitioners/A1 to A5 are present and are identified by their respective counsel. They filed a petition seeking to compound the offences alleged against them and to quash the proceedings against them. It is submitted by both parties that at the intervention of the elders, the parties have amicably settled their disputes concerning the present case and hence compromise may be recorded and criminal proceedings in the above case may be quashed.

4. In *Yogendra Yadav and others v. the State of Jharkhan*^[1] the Supreme Court, in the matter of compromise of a non-compoundable offence, held as under:

“The question before this Court is whether this Court can compound the offences under Sections 326 and 307 of the IPC, which are non-compoundable. Needless to say that offences which are non-compoundable cannot be compounded by the court. Courts draw the power of

compounding offences from Section 320 of the Code. The said provision has to be strictly followed (*Gian Singh v. State of Punjab* {(2012) 10 SCC 303}). However, in a given case, the High Court can quash a criminal proceeding in exercise of its power under Section 482 of the Code having regard to the fact that the parties have amicably settled their disputes and the victim has no objection, even though the offences are non-compoundable. In which cases the High Court can exercise its discretion to quash the proceedings depending on facts and circumstances of each case. Offences, which involve moral turpitude, grave offences like rape, murder etc. cannot be effaced by quashing the proceedings because that will have harmful effect on the society. Such offences cannot be said to be restricted to two individuals or two groups. If such offences are quashed, it may send wrong signal to the society. However, when the High Court is convinced that the offences are entirely personal in nature and, therefore, do not affect public peace or tranquility and where it feels that quashing of such proceedings on account of compromise would bring about peace and would secure ends of justice, it should not hesitate to quash them. In such cases, the prosecution becomes a lame prosecution. Pursuing such a lame prosecution would be waste of time and energy. That will also unsettle the compromise and obstruct restoration of peace.”

5. Having regard to the above submission and considering the fact that the parties have amicably settled the disputes among themselves out of Court and no useful purpose will be served even if the parties are driven to the trial as they compromised, and following the decision reported in ***Gian Singh v. State of Punjab and another***^[2] the criminal miscellaneous petition is allowed and compromise is recorded.

6. Accordingly, the Crl.M.P.No.9149 of 2016 and the Criminal Petition are allowed and the proceedings in C.C.No.385 of 2015 on the file of XIII Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Hyderabad, are quashed against the petitioners/A1 to A5. Miscellaneous petitions, if any, pending in this criminal petition shall stand closed.

14th June, 2016
sj

[\[1\]](#) 2015 (1) ALD (Cri.) 240 (Supreme Court)

[\[2\]](#) (2012) 10 SCC 303