

HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE M.S.K. JAISWAL

CRL.P.M.P.Nos. 14707 and 14708 of 2016
IN/AND
CRIMINAL PETITION No. 13069 of 2016

ORDER:

The criminal petition is filed under Section 482 Cr.P.C. to quash the proceedings in Crime No. 181 of 2016 on the file of the Station House Officer, Police Station, Ramachandrapuram, Medak District, registered for the offences punishable under Section 498-A IPC and Sections 3 and 4 of the Dowry Prohibition Act.

The 2nd respondent/*de facto* complainant and her counsel as well as the petitioners/accused and their counsel are present.

Heard both sides and perused the record.

Basing on the complaint lodged by the 2nd respondent/*de facto* complainant, the above crime was registered against the petitioners/accused.

It is submitted by both the parties that at the stage of investigation of the above crime, at the intervention of the elders and well-wishers, the parties have amicably settled their disputes concerning to the present crime and hence compromise may be recorded and criminal proceedings in the above crime may be quashed.

In *Yogendra Yadav and others v. the State of Jharkhand*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.”

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

¹ 2015 (1) ALD (CrI.) 240 (Supreme Court)

even if the parties are driven to face investigation and the trial as they compromised, and following the decision reported in *Gian Singh v. State of Punjab and another*² the criminal miscellaneous petitions are allowed and compromise is recorded, and consequently, proceedings in Crime No. 181 of 2016 on the file of the Station House Officer, Police Station, Ramchandrapuram, Medak District registered against the petitioners/accused are hereby quashed.

The CrI.P.MP.Nos.14707 and 14708 of 2016 and CrI.P.No. 13069 of 2016 are accordingly allowed.

JUSTICE M.S.K. JAISWAL

DATED 6th SEPTEMBER, 2016.
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² (2012) 10 SCC 303