

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH

CRM-M No.12474 of 2017 (O&M)
Date of decision : 6.8.2018

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Harmeet Singh and another

.....Petitioners

vs.

The State of Punjab and another

.....Respondents

Coram: Hon'ble Mr. Justice H. S. Madaan

Present: Ms. Preeti Sharma, Advocate
for the petitioners.

Mr. Rakeshinder Singh Sidhu, AAG, Punjab.

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H. S. Madaan, J. (Oral)

Petitioners - Harmeet Singh and another have brought the instant petition under Section 482 Cr.P.C. for quashing of FIR No. 143 dated 3.11.2010, for offences under Sections 406, 498-AIPC, registered at Police Station Division No.4, Ludhiana City, against them, alongwith consequential proceedings arising therefrom, on the basis of compromise, stated to have been effected between them and complainant Baljeet Kaur and another - arrayed as respondent No.2.

When the petition came up for hearing on 19.4.2017, notice of motion was ordered to be issued. The respondent No. 1 - State of Punjab through State counsel had put in appearance. Then in light of the contention that parties have since effected compromise, they were directed to put in appearance before the trial Court to get their statements recorded with regard to compromise and the trial Court was directed to send a report to this Court.

Report has been received from Judicial Magistrate Ist Class, Ludhiana, in terms of which complainant Baljit Kaur and accused, namely, Harmeet Singh and Satwant Kaur had appeared there and their statements were recorded, in terms of which they have admitted to have entered into a voluntary compromise, with free will, without any pressure, coercion or undue influence. Further complainant has stated that she has no objection if the FIR in question is quashed by this Court. There is nothing on record to doubt the genuineness of the compromise so arrived at between the parties. It has been reported that no accused has been declared proclaimed offender in the FIR in question. Alongwith the report statements of the complainant and the accused party, in original, have been annexed.

I have heard learned counsel for the petitioners, learned State counsel, besides going through the record.

It is stated that challan has since been filed and the case is at the stage of prosecution evidence and the trial is going on. The marriage between Baljeet Kaur and Harmeet Singh is stated to have

been dissolved by way of decree of divorce by mutual consent.

The dispute between the parties has been resolved amicably, which appears to have been arrived at between them voluntarily without any threat or coercion and in terms of ratio of the authority reported as **Kulwinder Singh and others vs. State of Punjab and others** 2007 (3) RCR (Criminal) 1052, where in para 28, it has been held as under :-

“The compromise, in a modern society, is the sine qua non of harmony and orderly behaviour. It is the soul of justice and if the power under Section 482 of the Cr.P.C. is used to enhance such a compromise which, in turn, enhances the social amity and reduces friction, then it truly is *“finest hour of justice”*.”

It has been observed that High Court has power to quash prosecution in order to achieve ends of justice and to prevent abuse of process of law. Though such powers are unlimited but those are to be exercised sparingly and with utmost care and caution. Though there is no statutory bar which can effect the inherent power of High Court under Section 482 Cr.P.C.

The compromise is in interest of peace and tranquility in the society and for such like reasons this Court can quash the FIR and ancillary proceedings exercising power under Section 482 Cr.P.C., it appears to be a fit case to exercise such powers.

Accordingly, the petition is allowed and the abovesaid FIR
alongwith ancillary proceedings are hereby quashed.

6.8.2018
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(H.S. Madaan)
Judge

Whether speaking / reasoned

Yes / No

Whether reportable

Yes / No