

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT
CHANDIGARH**

**CRM-M-24693 of 2017 (O&M)
Date of Decision:23.02.2018**

Inderjit Singh and another

..... Petitioners

Versus

State of Punjab and another

..... Respondents

CORAM:- HON'BLE MRS.JUSTICE LISA GILL

Present: Mr. S.S.Behl, Advocate
the petitioners.

Ms. Monika Jalota, DAG., Punjab.

Mr.Ashish Bassi, Advocate
for respondent no.2.

LISA GILL, J(Oral).

Prayer in this petition is for quashing of FIR No.0039 dated 18.03.2016, under Sections 406, 498-A IPC, registered at Women Police Station, Ludhiana, along with all other consequential proceedings arising therefrom on the basis of compromise dated 25.05.2017 (Annexure P-2) arrived at between the parties.

It is submitted that the above-said FIR was registered at the instance of respondent No.2 due to matrimonial discord with her husband-petitioner no.1. Learned counsel for the petitioners and respondent no.2 inform that petition under Section 13-B of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, filed by petitioner no.1 and respondent no.2 has been allowed on 01.12.2017. The entire settled amount has been handed over to respondent no.2. It is thus prayed that this petition be allowed.

A copy of the judgment and decree dated 01.12.2017 filed in Court today is taken on record subject to just exceptions.

This Court on 14.11.2017 directed the parties to appear before the learned trial court for recording of their statements in respect to the above-mentioned compromise. Learned trial court was directed to submit a report regarding the genuineness of the compromise, as to whether it has been arrived at out of the free will and volition of the parties without any coercion, fear or undue influence. Learned trial court was also directed to intimate whether the petitioners are absconding/proclaimed offender and whether any other case is pending against them. Information was sought as to whether all affected persons are a party to the settlement.

Pursuant to order dated 14.11.2017, the parties appeared before the learned Judicial Magistrate Ist Class, Ludhiana, on 01.12.2017. Respondent No.2 stated that she has compromised the matter with both the petitioners out of her own free will, without any pressure or coercion. The compromise deed was tendered as Ex.C-1. It is further stated that all her claims with regard to past, present, future alimony and dowry claims have been settled and she no longer wishes to pursue the matter. Respondent no.2 specifically stated that she has no objection to the quashing of the aforementioned FIR against both the petitioners. Statement of the petitioners in respect to the settlement were recorded.

As per report dated 08.12.2017, received from the learned Judicial Magistrate Ist Class, Ludhiana, satisfaction is expressed that the compromise between the parties is genuine, arrived

at out of the free will of the parties, without any pressure, coercion or undue influence. Petitioners are not reported to be proclaimed offenders.

Learned counsel for respondent No.2 affirms and verifies the factum of settlement between the parties. It is reiterated that respondent No.2 has no objection to the quashing of the above-mentioned FIR against both the petitioners.

Learned counsel for the State has not raised any serious objection to the quashing of this FIR on the basis of a settlement arrived at between the parties.

In ***Kulwinder Singh and others versus State of Punjab and another*** 2007 (3) R.C.R. (Criminal) 1052, a five member Bench of this Court has observed 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 Criminal Procedure Code 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”.

The Hon'ble Supreme Court in ***B.S.Joshi and others v. State of Haryana, 2003(4) SCC 675*** has observed that it becomes the duty of the Court to encourage genuine settlements of matrimonial disputes.

Keeping in view the facts and circumstances of this case, it would be in the interest of justice to quash the above-said FIR as no useful purpose would be served by continuance of the present proceedings. It will merely lead to wastage of precious time of the

court and would be an exercise in futility.

This petition is, thus, allowed and FIR No.0039 dated 18.03.2016, under Sections 406, 498-A IPC, registered at Women Police Station, Ludhiana, along with all consequential proceedings are, hereby, quashed.

23.02.2018
s.khan

[LISA GILL]
Judge

Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No.
Whether reportable : Yes/No.