

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

Sr. No.260

CRM-M-7526-2022

Date of Decision: September 13, 2022

Sharanjit Kaur and another

...Petitioners

Versus

State of Punjab and another

...Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AMAN CHAUDHARY

Present:- Mr. B.D. Sharma, Advocate for the petitioners.

Mr. Kamal Preet Bawa, AAG, Punjab.

Mr. Lalit Chander Sharma, Advocate for respondent No.2.

AMAN CHAUDHARY, J.(Oral)

Present petition has been filed for quashing of FIR No.151, dated 21.08.2015, under Sections 420 and 120-B of the IPC, registered at Police Station E Division, District Amritsar City, and all other consequential proceedings arising therefrom on the basis of the compromise dated 04.12.2019 (Annexure P-2).

On 23.02.2022, this Court had passed the following order:-

“(Through Video Conferencing)

By filing this petition, quashing of FIR No. 151 dated 21.8.2015 registered under Sections 420, 120 B IPC at Police Station E Division, District Amritsar City and other consequential proceedings arising therefrom qua petitioners has been sought on the basis of compromise.

Notice of motion.

Mr. A.A. Pathak, Additional A.G. Punjab and Mr. Lalit Sharma, Advocate accept notice on behalf of respondent No. 1 State and respondent No. 2 respectively.

Parties may appear before learned trial Court/Illaq Magistrate concerned on 8.3.2022 or any other date convenient to said Court and get their statements recorded with regard to compromise. The original compromise shall be produced before the said court. In the event of their statements being recorded, the Court will send copies of same to this Court before next date of hearing alongwith its report :

- i) regarding genuineness and voluntary nature of compromise ;*
- ii) whether all accused/petitioners are appearing before the Court or are on bail; and*
- iii) whether any other proceeding is pending against the accused/ petitioners. Adjourned to 31.5.2022. ”*

Pursuant to the aforesaid order, report dated 21.03.2022 has been received from the Addl. Chief Judicial Magistrate, Amritsar. The relevant portion of the said report is as under:-

“That the compromise effected between complainant and accused persons is genuine, voluntary, out of free will and without any coercion or undue influence.”

A perusal of the said report reveals that statements of the concerned persons have been recorded in the present case, who have stated that the matter has been settled between the parties and they have no objection in case the FIR in question is quashed. It is stated in the report that there are two accused persons, out of whom challan has been presented against accused Sharanjit Kaur and the name of accused Inderjit Singh has been shown in Column No.II as challan is yet to be presented against him. Vide order dated 23.11.2021, accused Sharanjit Kaur was declared proclaimed person. However, she was allowed to join

the proceedings on 08.03.2022.

I have heard learned counsel for the parties and have also gone through the case file.

After perusing the report submitted by the trial Court, this Court finds that the matter has been amicably settled between the petitioner(s) and the complainant(s). Since the matter has been settled and the parties have decided to live in peace, this Court is of the view that in order to secure the ends of justice, the criminal proceedings deserve to be quashed.

As per the Full Bench judgment of this Court in ***“Kulwinder Singh and others Vs State of Punjab”, 2007 (3) RCR (Criminal) 1052***, it is held that High Court has power under Section 482 Cr.P.C. to allow the compounding of non-compoundable offence and quash the prosecution where the High Court is of the view that the same was required to prevent the abuse of the process of law or otherwise to secure the ends of justice. This power of quashing is not confined to matrimonial disputes alone.

Hon'ble the Apex Court in the case of ***“Gian Singh Vs. State of Punjab and another”, 2012 (4) RCR (Criminal) 543***, had also observed that in order to secure the ends of justice or to prevent the abuse of process of Court, inherent power can be used by this Court to quash criminal proceedings in which a compromise has been effected. The relevant portion of para 57 of the said judgment is reproduced hereinbelow:-

“57. The position that emerges from the above discussion can be summarised thus: the power of the High Court in

quashing a criminal proceeding or FIR or complaint in exercise of its inherent jurisdiction is distinct and different from the power given to a criminal court for compounding the offences under Section 320 of the Code.

Inherent power is of wide plenitude with no statutory limitation but it has to be exercised in accord with the guideline engrafted in such power viz; (i) to secure the ends of justice or (ii) to prevent abuse of the process of any Court. XXX---XXX”

In view of the above, the petition is allowed and FIR No.151, dated 21.08.2015, under Sections 420 and 120-B of the IPC, registered at Police Station E Division, District Amritsar City, and all other consequential proceedings arising therefrom, are quashed qua the petitioners.

September 13, 2022
sarita

(AMAN CHAUDHARY)
JUDGE

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