

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

**Transfer Application No. 287 of 2021 (O & M)
Date of decision: 29.11.2022**

Sushila

.....Petitioner

VS

Sukhdev

.....Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE NIDHI GUPTA

Present:- Mr. Radhe Shyam Sharma, Advocate
for the petitioner.

None for the respondent.

NIDHI GUPTA, J.(Oral)

1. Prayer in this petition filed by petitioner-wife is for transfer of the petition filed by respondent-husband under Section 13 of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 titled "Sukhdev versus Sushila" pending in the Court of Principal Judge, Family Court, Jind to a Court of competent jurisdiction at Fatehabad.

Even on second call no one has turned up on behalf of respondent. Same was the position on the last date of hearing.

2. Learned counsel for the petitioner has contended :-

- i) that the parties were married on 17.7.2013 according to Hindu rites and rituals.
- ii) that no child was born out of this wedlock.
- iii) that the petitioner-wife is living separately from the respondent-husband since 04.4.2014 and living with her parents at their mercy at Fatehabad.

iv) that the petitioner is unemployed, having no source of income and totally dependent upon her parents and the respondent-husband is not paying anything to her towards maintenance.

v) The respondent-husband has filed the petition under Section 13 of the Hindu Marriage Act, which is pending before the Principal Judge, Family Court, Jind.

The proceedings arising out of petitions (1) under Section 125 Cr.P.C.; and (2) under Section 12 of the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005, filed by the petitioner-wife, are pending in the Courts having competent jurisdiction at Fatehabad.

The petition filed by the respondent-husband under Section 9 of the Hindu Marriage Act, titled as 'Sukhdev vs. Sushils' before the Court at Jind has also been ordered to be transferred to the Court of competent jurisdiction at Fatehabad, by this Court in Transfer Application No.296 of 2016, titled as 'Sushila vs. Sukhdev', decided on 11.1.2017, annexed with this petition as Annexure A-2.

v) that the distance between place of residence of the petitioner-wife i.e. Fatehabad and the place of proceedings under Section 13 of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 filed by the respondent-husband, pending before the Principal Judge, Family Court, Jind, is about 100 kilometers of one side.

vi) that there is no able bodied person in the family of the petitioner, who can accompany her to the Court of proceedings at Jind.

3. It is inter alia on these grounds that petitioner prays for transfer of the case, as detailed in para 1 above.

4. I have heard learned counsel for the petitioner.

The legal position in such like cases as the present one, is well

established. In this regard, judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court rendered in **N.C.V. Aishwarya vs A.S. Saravana Karthik Sha," 2022 Live Law (SC) 627**, is most relevant wherein the Hon'ble Supreme Court has held as under:-

“9. The cardinal principle for exercise of power under section 24 of the Code of Civil Procedure is that the ends of justice should demand the transfer of the suit, appeal or other proceeding. In matrimonial matters, wherever Courts are called upon to consider the plea of transfer, the Courts have to take into consideration the economic soundness of both the parties, the social strata of the spouses and their behavioural pattern, their standard of life prior to the marriage and subsequent thereto and the circumstances of both the parties in eking out their livelihood and under whose protective umbrella they are seeking their sustenance to life. Given the prevailing socioeconomic paradigm in the Indian society, generally, it is the wife's convenience which must be looked at while considering transfer.

10. Further, when two or more proceedings are pending in different Courts between the same parties which raise common question of fact and law, and when the decisions in the cases are interdependent, it is desirable that they should be tried together by the same Judge so as to avoid multiplicity in trial of the same issues and conflict of decisions.”

5. Further reliance can be placed upon the judgments in **“Sumita Singh vs Kumar Sanjay”, 2002 SC 396** and **“Rajani Kishor Pardeshivs Kishor Babulal Pardeshi”, 2005(12) SCC 237**, wherein the Hon'ble Supreme Court has observed that “while deciding the transfer application, the Courts are required to give more weightage and consideration to the convenience of the female litigants and transfer of legal proceedings from one Court to another should ordinarily be allowed, taking into consideration their convenience and the Courts should desist from putting female litigants under undue hardships.”

6. Even this Court in number of cases has followed the aforesaid principle of law. Accordingly, it is well settled that while considering the transfer of a matrimonial dispute/case, at the instance of the wife, the Court is to consider the family condition of the wife, the custody of the minor child, economic condition of the wife, her physical health and earning capacity of the husband and most important the convenience of the wife i.e. she cannot travel alone without assistance of a male member of her family, connectivity of the place to and fro from her place of residence as well as bearing of the litigation charges and travelling expenses.

7. In view of the facts mentioned above and the judgments i.e. **Sumita Singh's** case (supra), **Rajani Kishor Pardeshi's** case (supra) and **N.C.V. Aishwarya's** case (supra) passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court, this Court deems it appropriate to allow the present petition, subject to the following conditions:-

- a) The petition filed by respondent husband under Section 13 of Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, bearing No.HMA/422/2020 titled as 'Sukhdev vs. Sushila', pending in the Court of Principal Judge, Family Court, Jind is transferred to a Court of competent jurisdiction at Fatehabad.
- b) The Id. District Judge, Jind is directed to transfer complete record pertaining to the aforesaid case to District Judge, Fatehabad.
- c) The parties are directed to appear before the District & Sessions Judge, Fatehabad on 23.12.2022.
- d) The District Judge, Fatehabad will assign the said petition to the Court of competent jurisdiction.

8. The concerned Court at Fatehabad will make all endeavour to refer the case before the Mediation and Conciliation Centre for exploring the possibility of some amicable settlement between the parties.

9. The Court concerned, where the litigation pending between the parties, will accommodate them with one date in one calendar month.

11. I am supported by the decisions rendered by a Co-ordinate Bench of this Court in **TA No. 1315/2022, Rohini Arora v Nitin Talwar; TA No. 1322 of 2022, Jaswinder Kaur v Gurvinderjeet Singh; and TA No. 1323 of 2022, Usha Rani v Karmajit Singh.**

Disposed of.

Pending application(s), if any, stands disposed of.

November 29, 2022
Vijay Asija

(NIDHI GUPTA)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned	YES/NO
Whether Reportable	YES/NO