

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

CRM-M-6309-2021

Date of decision: 27.01.2023

Mandeep Kaur

.....Petitioner

versus

State of Punjab and another

.....Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE NAMIT KUMAR

Present: Mr. Sunny K. Singla, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Anup Singh, A.A.G., Punjab.

Mr. Himanshu Puri, Advocate
for respondent No.2.

NAMIT KUMAR, J. (ORAL)

This petition has been filed under Section 482 Cr.P.C. seeking quashing of FIR No.60 dated 04.08.2019 under Section 174-A of IPC registered at Police Station City Ahmedgarh, District Sangrur (Annexure P-3).

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the service could not be effected upon the petitioner and for that reason, proceedings under Section 174-A IPC were initiated and FIR No.60 dated 04.08.2019 was registered.

He further submits that the main dispute which was under Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, out of which, proceedings under Section 174-A of IPC have been emerged, had already been concluded vide order dated 30.11.2019 passed by the learned JMJC, Malerkotla as the matter had been compromised between the parties.

He submits that once the original proceedings have come to an end with the compromise between the parties, therefore, the present

proceedings under Section 174-A of IPC arising out of the original proceedings should also come to an end. To support his contention he relies upon the judgment of this Court passed in 'Aditya Goyal vs. State of Haryana' CRM-M-11269-2019 decided on 07.05.2019.

In the above said judgment, this Court has quashed the proceedings under Section 174-A of IPC where the main proceedings have already been concluded. The relevant portion from *Aditya Goyal's case (Supra)* is as under:-

“Learned counsel for the petitioner has relied upon the decisions rendered by this Court in **Vikas Sharma vs. Gurpreet Singh Kohli and another (supra)**, 2017, (3) L.A.R. 584, **Microqual Techno Limited and others Vs. State of Haryana and another**, 2015 (32) RCR (Crl.) 790 and **Rajneesh Khanna Vs. State of Haryana and another**” 2017(3) L.A.R. 555, wherein, in an identical circumstance, this Court has held that since the main petition filed under Section 138 of the Act stands withdrawn in view of an amicable settlement between the parties, therefore, continuation of proceedings under Section 174-A of IPC shall be nothing but an abuse of the process of law.

Learned State counsel, on instructions from the Investigating Officer, has not disputed the factual position.

After hearing learned counsel for the parties, I find merit in the present petition.

Since the main complaint filed by the complainant under Section 138 of the N.I. Act itself stands dismissed as withdrawn by the trial Court keeping in view the fact that petitioner has cleared the entire dues and on the direction of this Court, the petitioner has already appeared before the Investigating Officer and has also deposited the cost of Rs.10,000/- with the Illaqa Magistrate, this Court is of the opinion that continuation of proceedings under Section 174-A IPC shall be an abuse of process of law.

Accordingly, in view of the facts and circumstance of the case and also in view of the judgments relied upon by the petitioner, this petition is allowed and order dated 03.12.2018 (Annexure P-1), passed by the trial Court in Criminal Complaint No. 1624/2017 dated 12.09.2017, filed under Section 138 of the N. I. Act, vide which, the petitioner has been declared a proclaimed person as well as other consequential proceedings arising therefrom including FIR No. 66 dated 01.02.2019, registered under Section 174-A IPC at Police Station Jagadhri City, District Yamuna Nagar (Annexure P-2) are hereby quashed.”

To the same effect, another judgment passed in 'Lakhwinder Singh versus State of Punjab' CRM-M-37155-2021 decided on 16.11.2021

also supports the present case.

Learned State counsel has not disputed the fact that the matter has been compromised.

A perusal of order dated 30.11.2019 passed by the learned JMIC, Malerkotla, makes it clear that the matter has been settled between the parties and the main complaint had been dismissed as withdrawn. Consequently, no fruitful purpose would be served in continuing the proceedings under Section 174-A of IPC.

Consequently, the present petition is allowed and the impugned FIR No.60 dated 04.08.2019 under Section 174-A of IPC registered at Police Station City Ahmedgarh, District Sangrur (Annexure P-3) and all subsequent proceedings arising therefrom, are hereby quashed, on the basis of compromise, *qua* the petitioner only subject to payment of Rs.5,000/- as costs to be deposited with the Punjab and Haryana High Court Lawyers' Welfare Fund within a period of one month from the date of passing of this order.

27.01.2023
Neha

(NAMIT KUMAR)
JUDGE

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