

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

268

**CRM-M No. 19296 of 2020
Date of Decision : 20.2.2023**

Harwant Singh and others

..... Petitioners

versus

State of Punjab and another

..... Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE TRIBHUVAN DAHIYA

Present: Mr. Sandeep Arora, Advocate, for the petitioners
Mr. Harpreet Singh, Addl. AG, Punjab
Mr. G.S. Rawat, Advocate, for respondent no. 2

TRIBHUVAN DAHIYA J. (ORAL):

The instant petition has been filed under Section 482 Cr.P.C. seeking quashing of FIR No.47 dated 13.8.2017 under Sections 452, 324, 323, 427, 379-B, 354-A, 354-B, 148 and 149 IPC registered at Police Station Kalanaur, District Gurdaspur (Annexure P-1), and all consequential proceedings arising therefrom, in view of the compromise deed Annexure P-2 entered into between the petitioners and the complainant to settle their disputes in question.

2. Keeping in view the fact that the parties had entered into a compromise, they were directed to appear before the Illaqa Magistrate/trial Court for getting their statements recorded in that regard, vide order dated 17.2.2021. Pursuant thereto, a report dated 15.3.2021 has been received from Judicial Magistrate Ist Class, Gurdaspur, at Flag 'B', stating that the compromise arrived at between the parties is without any pressure, coercion or undue influence.

3. Learned State counsel and learned counsel appearing on behalf of respondent admit the factum of compromise, and submit that they have no objection to quashing of the FIR on that basis.

4. It has been held by the Supreme Court of India in cases *Gian Singh v. State of Punjab and another*, 2012(10) SCC 303 and *Narinder Singh and others v. State of Punjab and another*, 2014(6) SCC 466, that criminal cases

having overwhelmingly civil character, particularly those arising out of commercial transactions or matrimonial relationships or family disputes, should be quashed when the parties have resolved their disputes among themselves in a *bona fide* manner by entering into a compromise.

5. Further, reference can also be made to Full Bench judgment of this Court in *Kulwinder Singh and others v. State of Punjab and another*, 2007(3) R.C.R.(Criminal) 1052, wherein it has been held that on the parties settling their disputes by way of a compromise the High Court in exercise of power under Section 482 Cr.P.C. can allow the compounding of non-compoundable offences also, and quash the prosecution to prevent abuse of the process of law or otherwise to secure the ends of justice. The power is not confined to matrimonial disputes alone. On similar lines is another judgment of the Supreme Court in *Shiji v. Radhika*, 2012 (1) SCC (Criminal) 101, wherein criminal proceedings for offences under Sections 354 and 394 IPC were quashed since the parties had entered into a compromise and there were no chances of conviction.

6. A perusal of the allegations in the FIR as well as the aforesaid report establishes that the present cases fall in the category of cases that can be quashed by the High Court in exercise of its inherent jurisdiction under Section 482 Cr.P.C., as per law laid down in the aforementioned judgments. Since disputes between the parties have been amicably resolved by way of the compromise, continuation of criminal proceedings will be an exercise in futility, as chances of ultimate conviction are not there.

7. Consequently, this petition is allowed. FIR No.47 dated 13.8.2017 under Sections 452, 324, 323, 427, 379-B, 354-A, 354-B, 148 and 149 IPC registered at Police Station Kalanaur, District Gurdaspur (Annexure P-1), and all consequential proceedings arising therefrom, are hereby quashed *qua* the petitioner.

(TRIBHUVAN DAHIYA)
JUDGE

20.2.2023

Ashwani

ASHWANI KUMAR
2023.02.22 09:51
I attest to the accuracy and
integrity of this document

Whether speaking/reasoned:

Yes/No

Whether reportable:

Yes/No