

CRM-M-25854-2022

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT
CHANDIGARH

(293)

CRM-M-25854-2022

Date of Decision:-January 24, 2023

Jitender Pal Singh Randhawa and others

.....Petitioners

Versus

State of Punjab and Another

.....Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ALOK JAIN

Present: Mr. L.M. Gulati, Advocate for the petitioners.

Mr. S.S. Cheema, DAG, Punjab.

ALOK JAIN, J. (Oral)

The instant petition has been filed under Section 482 Cr.P.C. seeking quashing of FIR No. 11 dated 27.05.2021, registered under Section 498-A of Indian Penal Code at Police Station NRI, District Amritsar (Annexure P-1) and all consequential proceedings arising therefrom, on the basis of compromise dated 27.05.2022 (Annexure P-2).

Mr. Shubham Mehta, Advocate has put in appearance and filed his Vakalatnama on behalf of respondent No.2, which is taken on record.

Keeping in view the fact that the parties entered into a compromise, this Court vide order dated 07.06.2022 directed the parties to appear before the Illaqa Magistrate/trial Court for getting their statements recorded in that regard. Pursuant thereto, a report dated 30.06.2022 has been received from Judicial Magistrate 1st Class, Amritsar, stating that the compromise arrived at between the parties is voluntary and the same is without any pressure, coercion or undue influence.

Learned State counsel and learned counsel appearing on behalf of respondent No.2-complainant admit the factum of compromise and submit that they have no objection to quashing of the FIR on that basis.

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Perusal of the aforesaid report establishes that the parties have amicably settled their dispute, and continuance of criminal prosecution in such a situation will be an exercise in futility, as the chances of ultimate conviction are bleak. The power under Section 482 Cr.P.C. can be exercised in such matters. It has been held by 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 406 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.

Consequently, this petition is allowed. FIR No. 11 dated 27.05.2021, registered under Section 498-A of Indian Penal Code at Police Station NRI, District Amritsar (Annexure P-1) and all consequential proceedings arising therefrom, are hereby quashed *qua* the petitioners, subject to payment of cost of ₹ 30,000/- to be deposited by the petitioners (i.e. ₹ 10,000/- each) and ₹ 20,000/- to be deposited by respondent No.2 within two months from today in the following account:-

Account Name – Punjab and Haryana High Court Bar Association Lawyer’s Family Welfare Fund.

Account No. - 41564846387

Bank Name – SBI High Court Branch.

Learned counsel for the complainant submits that the recovery of articles effected during investigation is still with the police authorities. Complainant is at liberty to approach the police authorities, in accordance with law for release of the said articles.

(ALOK JAIN)
JUDGE

January 24, 2023
Parul

Whether speaking/reasoned:-	Yes/No
Whether Reportable:-	Yes/No