

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

(259)

Neutral Citation No. 2023:PHHC:065799

CRM-M-48113-2022

Date of Decision: 08.05.2023

Sandeep Moudgil and another

--Petitioners

Versus

State of Punjab and others

--Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ASHOK KUMAR VERMA.

Present:- Mr. P.S.Punia, Advocate,
for the petitioners.

Mr. J.P.Ratra, Sr. DAG, Punjab.

Mr. Amitoj Singh, Advocate
for respondents no.2 and 3.

ASHOK KUMAR VERMA, J. (ORAL)

The petitioners have filed the present petition under Section 482 of the Cr.P.C. for quashing of FIR No.191 dated 04.11.2018 registered under Sections 420/120-B of the IPC and Section 24 of the Immigration Act and Section 13 of the Punjab Prevention of Human Smuggling Act, 2012, at Police Station Haibowal, District Police Commissionerate Ludhiana (Annexure P-1) and all consequential proceedings arising therefrom on the basis of compromise dated 17.09.2022 (Annexures P-2) effected between the private parties.

Pursuant to order dated 06.02.2023 passed by this Court, the private parties appeared before learned Judicial Magistrate Ist Class, Ludhiana, to get their statements recorded. Learned Judicial Magistrate Ist Class, Ludhiana, submitted her report dated 03.03.2023 along with the original statements of the parties, which is taken on record.

It is now well settled that the High Court has inherent power to quash the criminal proceedings in non-compoundable cases on the basis of settlement between the parties for securing the ends of justice or to prevent abuse of the process where the possibility of conviction is remote and bleak and continuation of the criminal case would put the accused to great oppression and prejudice and extreme injustice would be caused to him by not quashing the criminal case. Criminal cases having overwhelmingly and predominantly civil character particularly those arising out of commercial transaction or arising out of matrimonial relationship or family dispute can be quashed when the parties have resolved their entire dispute among themselves. However, such power cannot be exercised in those prosecutions which involve heinous and serious offences of mental depravity or offences like murder, rape dacoity, etc. which are not private in nature and have a serious impact on society. Similarly, prosecution for offences alleged to have been committed under special enactments like the Prevention of Corruption Act or the offences committed by public servant while working in that capacity cannot be quashed on the basis of compromise between the victim and the offender. For judicial precedents in this regard, reference may be made to **Gian Singh Vs. State of Punjab and another : 2012(4) RCR Criminal) 543, Narinder Singh Vs. State of Punjab (Supreme Court) : 2014 (2) RCR (Criminal) 482, State of Madhya Pradesh Vs. Laxmi Narayan and others (Supreme Court) : 2019 (2) RCR (Criminal) 255 and Kulwinder Singh and others Vs. State of Punjab and others (Punjab and Haryana High Court) : 2007 (3) RCR (Criminal) 1052.**

According to the report, learned Judicial Magistrate Ist Class, Ludhiana, is satisfied that compromise effected between the parties is genuine, voluntary, without any coercion and undue influence.

Considering the report dated 03.03.2023 of learned Judicial Magistrate Ist Class, Ludhiana, and the fact that the compromise will bring peace and harmony between the parties, aforesaid FIR No.191 dated 04.11.2018 and all subsequent proceedings arising therefrom, are quashed, qua the petitioners only.

Disposed of, accordingly.

08.05.2023
dharamvir

(ASHOK KUMAR VERMA)
JUDGE

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