

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH

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CRM-M-53564-2021

Date of Decision: 20.02.2023

Gurdeep Singh and others

.... Petitioners

Versus

State of Punjab and others

.... Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ASHOK KUMAR VERMA

Present: - Mr. Sarju Puri, Advocate for the petitioners.

Mr. G.S. Sandhu, Deputy Advocate General, Punjab.

Mr. Abhinav Seth, Advocate for
Mr. Mohit Giri, Advocate for respondents No. 2 and 3.

ASHOK KUMAR VERMA, J. (ORAL)

The petitioners have filed the present petition under Section 482 Cr.P.C., for quashing FIR No. 166 dated 08.11.2020 (Annexure P-1) registered under Sections 323, 380, 427, 447 read with Section 34 IPC [Section 3(1) of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, added later on vide DDR No. 25 dated 14.12.2020) and all the consequential proceedings arising therefrom, on the basis of compromise effected between the parties.

Pursuant to the orders dated 15.03.2022 and 09.05.2022, passed by a co-ordinate Bench of this Court, the parties appeared before the learned Judicial Magistrate Ist Class, Ludhiana, to get their statements recorded. Learned Judicial Magistrate Ist Class, Ludhiana, has submitted his report along with statements of the parties vide letter No. 2260 dated

23.08.2022 duly forwarded by the learned I/C District and Sessions Judge, Ludhiana vide letter No. 774/G/EC dated 23.08.2022.

I have heard learned counsel for the parties and gone through the relevant 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 anr., 2012 (4) RAJ 549: 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 the compromise effected between the parties seems to be genuine, voluntary and without any coercion or undue influence.

Considering the report of learned Judicial Magistrate Ist Class, Ludhiana and the fact that the compromise will bring peace and harmony between the parties, aforesaid FIR No. 166 dated 08.11.2020 (Annexure P-1) and all subsequent proceedings arising therefrom, are quashed, qua petitioners, only.

Disposed of, accordingly.

20.02.2023
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(ASHOK KUMAR VERMA)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned **Yes/No**

Whether Reportable **Yes/No**