

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

144/2

2024:PHHC:015647

CRM-M-5601-2024

Date of decision: February 5th, 2024

Smt. Reetu Watts

.....Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab and another

.....Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE MANJARI NEHRU KAUL

Present: Mr. Varlin Garg, Advocate
for the petitioner.

MANJARI NEHRU KAUL, J. (ORAL)

The petitioner in the instant petition filed under Section 482 Cr.P.C. is seeking exemption from depositing 20% of the compensation amount as ordered by the learned Sessions Judge, Fazilka, on 07.11.2023 (Annexure P-3), during the pendency of the appeal.

2. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the condition imposed by the learned Appellate Court was onerous, more so since the petitioner did not have the financial means to make payment of 20% of the compensation amount. A prayer has, therefore, been made to exempt the said condition.

3. I have heard learned counsel for the petitioner and perused the relevant material on record.

4. This Court is not inclined to exempt the petitioner from depositing 20% of the compensation amount during the pendency of the appeal as it would defeat the very purpose behind enactment of Section 148 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881.

5. As a sequel to the above, there being no merit in the instant

petition, the same stands dismissed.

6. At this stage, learned counsel for the petitioner prays for extension of time to make payment of 20% of the compensation amount.
7. The petitioner is granted extension up to 31.03.2024 to make payment of 20% of the compensation amount.

February 5th, 2024
Puneet

(MANJARI NEHRU KAUL)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes

Whether reportable : No