

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

CRM-M-20240-2024
DECIDED ON: 24.04.2024

NAVNEET SINGH SHEKHAWAT
.....PETITIONER

VERSUS

STATE OF HARYANA AND ANOTHER
.....RESPONDENTS

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANDEEP MOUDGIL

Present: Mr. Suksham Aggarwal, Advocate for
Mr. Shubham Aggarwal, Advocate
for the petitioner.

SANDEEP MOUDGIL, J (ORAL)

1. This is a petition under Section 482 of Cr.P.C., for quashing the FIR No.242 dated 11.06.2018 (Annexure P-1), registered at Police Station New Colony, District Gurugram, Haryana, under Section 174-A of IPC (Annexure P-1) alongwith all consequential proceedings arising therefrom on the basis of compromise dated 10.04.2024 (Annexure P-4).
2. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the present FIR came to be registered in pursuance of the criminal complaint filed against the petitioner under section 138 of Negotiable Instrument Act wherein cheque no. 034959 dated 30.05.2016 for a sum of Rs 11,13,000/- drawn at Allahabad Bank presented by the petitioner got dishonored.
3. He further states that the petitioner has entered into compromise through memorandum of understanding dated 10.04.2024 (Annexure P-4) with the complainant and the matter stands settled between both the parties.

4. He states that the main complaint under Section 138 of Negotiable Instruments Act titled as “**Chetan Prakash Verma versus Navneet Singh Shekhawat**” stands withdrawn by the complainant, in view of the compromise affected between the parties vide memorandum of understanding dated 10.04.2024 (Annexure P-4) passed by Judicial Magistrate 1st Class, Gurugram.

5. Heard, learned counsel for the parties.

6. In view of the submissions made by learned counsel for the petitioner that the main complaint stands withdrawn by the complainant on 23.04.2024, therefore, continuation of proceedings under Section 174-A of IPC would be abuse of process of law. Also, this principle has been laid down in several dictums of this Court and reliance can be placed upon the orders dated 20.07.2022 and 24.08.2022 respectively, passed by a coordinate Bench of this Court in CRM-M-46062-2017, titled as “**Jatin Dhawan and another versus State of Haryana and another**” and CRM-M-12534-2022, titled as “**Krishan Kumar versus State of Haryana and another**”, respectively wherein it has been held that once the main case is dismissed as withdrawn, the continuation of proceedings under Section 174-A IPC shall be an abuse of process of law.

7. Further reliance can be placed upon the orders of this Court dated 12.12.2022 and 13.12.2022 passed in CRM-M-55634-2022 titled as “**Jinder Singh Vs. State of Punjab and another**” and CRM-M-45051-2022 titled as “**Hari Singh Meena Vs. State of Haryana**”, respectively in this regard.

8. Another Co-ordinate Bench of this Court in a case titled as ***“Ashok Madan vs. State of Haryana and another” reported as 2020 (4) RCR (Criminal) 87*** has also held as under:-

“No doubt, the learned counsel for the respondent has vehemently argued that the offence under Section 174A I.P.C. is independent of the main case, therefore, merely because the main case has been dismissed for want of prosecution, the present petition cannot be allowed, however, keeping in view the fact that the present FIR was registered only on account of absence from the proceedings in the main case which had been subsequently regularised by the court while granting bail to the petitioner, the default stood condoned. In such circumstances, continuation of proceedings under Section 174-A I.P.C. Shall be abuse of the process of court.

Accordingly, the petition is allowed. FIR No.446 dated 21.08.2017, registered under Section 174-A I.P.C. At Police Station Kotwali, District Faridabad, as well as consequential proceedings shall stand quashed.”

9. A perusal of the relevant extract of the above judgment would show that where the main case was dismissed for want of prosecution, it was observed that the continuation of proceedings under Section 174-A of the IPC shall be an abuse of the process of court.

10. Since the main complaint has been dismissed as withdrawn, as is evident from the perusal of aforesaid order dated 23.04.2024 passed by Judicial Magistrate 1st Class, Gurugram, which has been produced by learned counsel for the petitioner today in Court and the offence between the petitioner and complainant is personal in nature not against the society at large, who have resolved their dispute, no fruitful purpose would be served by continuing the proceedings in the instant case.

11. Keeping in view the above-said facts and circumstances, the present petition is allowed and FIR No.242 dated 11.06.2018 (Annexure P-1), registered at Police Station New Colony, District Gurugram, Haryana, under Section 174-A of IPC (Annexure P-1) alongwith all consequential proceedings arising therefrom, is hereby quashed qua the petitioner.

24.04.2024
Poonam Negi

(SANDEEP MOUDGIL)
JUDGE

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