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IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

CRM-M-26282-2023 (O&M)
Date of Decision: 25.01.2024

DIVIJ SINGLA

.. Petitioner

Vs.

STATE OF PUNJAB AND ANOTHER

..Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUMEET GOEL

Present: Mr. Ramandeep, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Adhiraj Singh Thind, AAG, Punjab.

Mr. G.S. Bawa, Advocate for
Mr. Jimmy Singla, Advocate for respondent No.2.

...

SUMEET GOEL, J. (Oral)

1. By way of present petition, the petitioner is seeking quashing of FIR No.383 dated 14.10.2021 under Sections 406, 498-A and 506 of IPC (Section 201 IPC added later on), registered at Police Station Patran, District Patiala, Punjab and all consequent proceedings arising therefrom on the basis of compromise/affidavit dated 03.05.2023 (Annexure P-2), which is stated to have been effected between the parties.
- 2 On 24.05.2023, the following order was passed:

“Prayer in the present petition under Section 482 Cr.P.C. is for quashing of FIR in question and all other consequential proceedings arising therefrom, on the basis of compromise, arrived at between the parties.

Notice of motion.

Mr. Jaiteshwar S. Bhandari, AAG, Punjab, accepts notice on behalf of respondent No.1-State and seeks time to file reply, if any.

At this stage, Mr. Pankaj Bains, Advocate has put in appearance on behalf of respondent No.2.

Learned counsel for respondent No.2 affirmed the factum of compromise between the parties.

Let the parties to appear before the trial Court/Area Magistrate as the case may be, on 10.07.2023 or any other date convenient to the parties, but not later than one week thereafter, for getting their statements recorded with regard to the compromise. Trial Court is directed to record the statements of all the concerned parties with regard to the genuineness and validity or otherwise of the compromise.

Report be sent through District and Sessions Judge, before the next date of hearing.

Adjourned to 28.08.2023.”

3. Pursuant to the aforesaid order, report dated 23.08.2023 from ld. JMIC, Samana has been received, which is taken on record. As per the report, the Trial Court has recorded as follows:-

“2. Statement of ASI Harmesh Singh No.1200/Ptl has been recorded to the effect that as per record, he is present investigating officer of present FIR as earlier investigating officer SI Birbal Sharma has been transferred. He stated that present FIR was got registered by complainant Diksha Singla daughter of Durga Dass Singla, resident of Ward no.6, Tobba Market, Narwana Road, Patran, District Patiala now residing at 12515, Pinewood Crecent, Surrey, BC V3V2LA, Canada against accused namely Divij Singla son of Parbodh Kumar, resident of near T.V.Tower, Urban Estate, Phase-I, District Bathinda, now resident of Flat no.404, 4 floor, Tower No.F-2, Maya Garden City, Ambala-Chandigarh Highway, Zirakpur, District SAS Nagar only. Except the present FIR accused is not involved in any other FIR. Accused has not been declared as Proclaimed Offender/person, nor any proclamation proceedings are pending against accused.

3. After going through the statements given by the parties, I am of the view that compromise between the parties is genuine, voluntary and without any coercion or undue influence.”

4. Learned counsel for respondent No.2 admits the fact of parties having compromised and states that he has no objection in case the FIR and all proceedings subsequent thereto against the petitioner are quashed.
5. Similarly, learned State counsel has stated no objection in case the FIR is quashed based upon the compromise (Annexure P-2).
- 6 I have heard learned Counsel for the parties and have carefully gone through the records of the case.

7. This Court and Apex Court has repeatedly dealt with the issue of exercise of jurisdiction under Section 482 of the Code to quash proceeding in non-compoundable offences in the cases of ***Gian Singh vs. State of Punjab and another, 2012(10) SCC 303, Kulwinder Singh & others vs. State of Punjab & another, 2007 (3) RCR (Criminal) 1052 and Ram Gopal and another vs. State of Madhya Pradesh, 2021(4) R.C.R. (Criminal) 322 (Criminal Appeal No.1489 of 2012 decided on 29th of September, 2021)***. The proposition of law that emerges from the aforesaid decisions rendered by Apex Court and this Court is :

- (a) *Power u/s 482 Cr.P.C. vested with this Court is much wider and is unaffected by Section 320 of the Code.*
- (b) *However, wider the power greater the caution.*
- (c) *The underlining principle while exercising such power is that it can be invoked to quash the proceedings recognizing compromise between the parties in the matters which are overwhelmingly and predominantly of civil character like commercial transactions or arising out of matrimonial relationship or family disputes.*
- (d) *The said power is not to be exercised in the prosecutions involving heinous and serious offences of mental depravity or offences like murder, rape, dacoity etc. as such offences are not private in nature and have a serious impact on society.*
- (e) *Section 482 Cr.P.C. casts duty upon the High Court to advance interest of justice as well. It is in recognition of this duty casted upon the High Court, that Apex Court held that the High Court would not refuse to quash FIR under Section 307 merely because FIR finds mention thereof. High Court can assess nature of injuries sustained, whether such injuries inflicted on vital/delicate parts of the body/nature of weapons used etc.*
- (f) *Such exercise at the hands of High Court would be permissible only after the evidence is collected after investigation and chargesheet is filed/charges framed during the trial. Such exercise cannot be carried out while the matter is still under investigation.*
- (g) *While quashing FIR in non-compoundable offences even which are private in nature, High Court is required to consider antecedents of the accused, conduct of the accused and whether he was absconding or*

whether he has managed the complainant to enter into a compromise.

8 Thus, keeping in view the aforesaid facts and circumstances, this Court is of the considered opinion that it is a fit case to exercise jurisdiction vested u/s 482 Cr.P.C. to quash the FIR as :-

- (i) Putting a quietus to the proceedings will bring peace and tranquility amongst parties & will accordingly further the cause of substantial justice.*
- (ii) The offences alleged are primarily of private nature.*
- (iii) The parties have compromised.*
- (iv) As per the report received the compromise is said to be voluntary in its nature.*
- (v) Complainant/victim is reported to have entered into compromise on his own volition.*

9 Consequently, the petition is allowed. FIR No.383 dated 14.10.2021 under Sections 406, 498-A and 506 of IPC (Section 201 IPC added later on), registered at Police Station Patran, District Patiala, Punjab and all consequent proceedings arising therefrom on the basis of compromise/affidavit dated 03.05.2023 (Annexure P-2), is, hereby, quashed qua the petitioner.

25.01.2024

Jasmine Kaur

(SUMEET GOEL)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned	Yes	No
Whether reportable	Yes	No