



IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH

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CRM-M-31759-2023

Date of Decision: 29.05.2024

Gurpreet Singh

.... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab and others

.... Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE NIDHI GUPTA

Present: - Mr. Amit Dhawan, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Kunwarbir Singh, A.A.G., Punjab.

Ms. Komalpreet Kaur, Advocate
for respondents No.2 and 3.

NIDHI GUPTA, J. (ORAL)

The petitioner who is the husband of the respondent No.3 herein, has filed the present petition under Section 482 Cr.P.C., for quashing of FIR No.42 dated 05.07.2018 (Annexure P-1) registered under Sections 406 and 498-A IPC, 1860 at Police Station Women Cell, Jalandhar on the basis of compromise in the shape of sworn-in-affidavits of the respondent No.3 dated 15.05.2023 (Annexure P-3) and complainant/respondent No.2 dated 09.06.2023 (Annexure P-4) arrived at between the parties.

Pursuant to the order dated 07.02.2024 passed by this Court, the parties appeared before the learned Judicial Magistrate 1st Class, Jalandhar, to get their statements recorded. Learned Judicial Magistrate 1st Class, Jalandhar, has submitted his report along with statements of the parties vide letter dated 07.03.2024 duly forwarded by the learned



District and Sessions Judge, Jalandhar.

A perusal of the above said report would show that the petitioner and respondents No. 2 and 3 have appeared and suffered statements with respect to the compromise in the shape of affidavits, which have been found to be valid, genuine, voluntary and without any coercion or undue influence.

Learned counsel for the petitioners submits that the present FIR emanates from the matrimonial dispute between the parties. He further submits that a joint petition under Section 13-B of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, for divorce by way of mutual consent has been filed. The petitioner and respondents No.2 and 3 are the only party to the compromise and have never been declared as proclaimed offenders. There is no other criminal case pending against the petitioner.

Learned State counsel has stated that he has ‘no objection’ in case the FIR is quashed on the basis of compromise qua the petitioner.

This Court has heard the learned counsel for the parties and has perused the file.

After perusing the report submitted by the learned Judicial Magistrate 1st Class, Jalandhar, this Court finds that the matter has been amicably settled between the petitioner and respondents No. 2 and 3. Since the matter has been settled and the parties have decided to live in peace, this Court feels that in order to secure the ends of justice, the criminal proceedings deserve to be quashed.

As per the Full Bench judgment of this Court in “*Kulwinder Singh and others Vs State of Punjab*”, 2007 (3) RCR (Criminal) 1052,



it is held that High Court has power under Section 482 Cr.P.C. to allow the compounding of non-compoundable offence and quash the proceedings where the High Court is of the opinion that the same is required to prevent the abuse of the process of law or otherwise to secure the ends of justice. This power of quashing is not confined to matrimonial disputes alone.

Hon'ble Apex Court in the case of “*Gian Singh Vs. State of Punjab and another*”, 2012 (4) RCR (Criminal) 543, had also observed that in order to secure the ends of justice or to prevent the abuse of process of Court, inherent power can be used by this Court to quash criminal proceedings in which a compromise has been effected. The relevant portion of para 57 of the said judgment is reproduced here-in-below:-

“57. The position that emerges from the above discussion can be summarised thus: the power of the High Court in quashing a criminal proceeding or FIR or complaint in exercise of its inherent jurisdiction is distinct and different from the power given to a criminal court for compounding the offences under Section 320 of the Code. Inherent power is of wide plenitude with no statutory limitation but it has to be exercised in accord with the guideline engrafted in such power viz; (i) to secure the ends of justice or (ii) to prevent abuse of the process of any Court.”

In view of what has been discussed here-in-above, this petition is allowed and FIR No.42 dated 05.07.2018 (Annexure P-1) registered under Sections 406 and 498-A IPC, 1860 at Police Station Women Cell, Jalandhar on the basis of compromise in the shape of sworn-in-affidavits of the respondent No.3 dated 15.05.2023 (Annexure P-3) and complainant/respondent No.2 dated 09.06.2023 (Annexure P-

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4), are ordered to be quashed qua the petitioner.

29.05.2024

Divyanshi

(NIDHI GUPTA)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned**Yes/No**

Whether Reportable

Yes/No