



126

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT
CHANDIGARH

CRM-M-36997-2024 (O&M)
Date of decision: 01.08.2024

Preeti

... Petitioner

Vs.

State of Haryana and others

... Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HARPREET SINGH BRAR

Present: Mr. A.K. Maurya, Advocate
for the petitioner.

HARPREET SINGH BRAR, J. (ORAL)

1. The present petition has been filed under Section 407 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (for short 'Cr.P.C.') read with Section 482 Cr.P.C. seeking transfer of trial proceedings of case CHI No.379 dated 14.09.2023 titled as State Vs. Abhishek (Annexure P-2) arising out of FIR No.130 dated 07.06.2023 under Sections 323, 376, 498-A, 506 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 (for short 'IPC'), registered at Police Station Panjokhra, pending in the Court of learned Judicial Magistrate 1st Class, Naraingarh, District Ambala to the competent Court of jurisdiction at Chandigarh.



2. Learned counsel for the petitioner, *inter alia*, contends that the petitioner has no source of income and she along with her minor child is living in Chandigarh. A petition filed by the petitioner seeking maintenance is also pending before the concerned Court at Chandigarh. It is further contended that the distance between Naraingarh (Ambala) and Chandigarh is about 63 kms and as such, it is very difficult for her to travel to Naraingarh (District Ambala) to pursue the aforementioned case before the Court at Naraingarh, District Ambala.

3. Further, learned counsel for the petitioner relies upon the judgments rendered by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in ***Sumita Singh Vs. Kumar Sanjay and another, AIR 2002 SC 396*** and ***Rajani Kishor Pardeshi Vs. Kishor Babulal Pardeshi, (2005) 12 SCC 237*** to contend that while deciding the transfer applications, more weightage and consideration should be given to the convenience of the female litigants and transfer of legal proceedings from one Court to another Court should ordinarily be allowed in order to avoid undue hardship to the female litigants.

4. Notice of motion.

5. On asking of the Court, Ms. Geeta Sharma, DAG, Haryana accepts notice on behalf of respondent No.1-State and she has no objection to the prayer made by the petitioner.

6. A two Judge Bench of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dealt with



power of the Court to transfer proceedings under Sections 24 and 25 of the Civil Procedure Code in ***Kulwinder Kaur @ Kulwinder Gurcharan Singh Vs. Kandi Friends Education Trust, AIR 2008 SC 1333***, wherein it was held that the power to make such transfers is discretionary in nature and hence, it would be unwise to attempt to shackle it with a blanket formula uniformly applicable to all situations. However, it cannot be denied that the power must be used with abundance of care and caution. Further a three Judge Bench of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in ***Gana Saraswathi Vs. H. Raghu Prasad, (2000) 10 SCC 277*** had observed that in the interest of justice, the doctrine of forum non-conveniens can also be extended to matrimonial proceedings. It was stated that Courts usually allow transfer petitions in such cases to ensure that the wife does not suffer on account of not being able to participate in the proceedings.

7. A two Judge Bench of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in ***N.C.V. Aishwarya Vs. A.S. Saravana Karthik Sha, 2022 SCC OnLine SC 1199*** has held as under:-

“9. The cardinal principle for exercise of power under Section 24 of the Code of Civil Procedure is that the ends of justice should demand the transfer of the suit, appeal or other proceeding. In matrimonial matters, wherever Courts are called upon to consider the plea of transfer, the Courts have to take into consideration the economic soundness of both the parties,



the social strata of the spouses and their behavioural pattern, their standard of life prior to the marriage and subsequent thereto and the circumstances of both the parties in eking out their livelihood and under whose protective umbrella they are seeking their sustenance to life. Given the prevailing socio-economic paradigm in the Indian society, generally, it is the wife's convenience which must be looked at while considering transfer.

10. Further, when two or more proceedings are pending in different Courts between the same parties which raise common question of fact and law, and when the decisions in the cases are interdependent, it is desirable that they should be tried together by the same Judge so as to avoid multiplicity in trial of the same issues and conflict of decisions.”

8. In the present case, the petitioner has to look after the minor child, who is residing with her. Furthermore, distance of Naraingarh (Ambala) from Chandigarh is around 63 kms and therefore, it would cause immense hardship to the petitioner, much less, she will have to bear the transportation expenses to attend the Court proceedings on each and every date.

9. In view of the law settled by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in ***Sumita Singh***'s case (supra), ***Rajani Kishor Pardeshi***'s case (supra) and ***N.C.V. Aishwarya***'s case (supra), present petition is allowed. Resultantly, trial proceedings of case CHI No.379 dated 14.09.2023 titled as State Vs.



Abhishek (Annexure P-2) arising out of FIR No.130 dated 07.06.2023 under Sections 323, 376, 498-A, 506 of IPC, registered at Police Station Panjokhra, pending in the Court of learned Judicial Magistrate 1st Class, Naraingarh, District Ambala is ordered to be transferred to the jurisdiction of District and Sessions Judge, Chandigarh. The District Judge, Ambala is directed to transfer the record pertaining to the aforesaid case to the District Judge, Chandigarh, who will assign the said case to the competent Court of jurisdiction. The parties are directed to appear before the learned trial Court at Chandigarh within a period of 30 days from today.

10. However, before parting with this order, liberty is granted to respondents No.2 to 4 to revive this petition, if they intend to contest the instant petition, subject to the following terms:-

- (a) Respondent No.2-husband will clear all arrears of maintenance, if any, in terms of the petition filed by the petitioner under Section 125 Cr.P.C. or in any other proceedings.
- (b) He will undertake on affidavit to pay the expenses of transportation availed by the petitioner to attend the Court proceedings at Naraingarh, District Ambala and Rs.500/- as diet charges for each and every date of hearing.
- (c) He will bring a demand draft of Rs.25,000/- towards the litigation expenses of the petitioner to pursue the case at



Naraingarh, District Ambala, in case the respondents opt to contest this petition.

01.08.2024
vishnu

[HARPREET SINGH BRAR]
JUDGE

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