

2024:PHHC:119247



IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

CRM M-44939 of 2024
Date of Decision: 10.09.2024

Parveen Kaashyap ...Petitioner
Versus
State of Haryana and another ... Respondents

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE N.S.SHEKHAWAT

Present : Mr. Raj Mohan Singh, Advocate, for the petitioner.

N.S.SHEKHAWAT, J. (Oral)

1. The petitioner has filed the present petition under Section 528 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Surakaha Sanhita, 2024 with a prayer to quash the impugned order dated 21.07.2023 (Annexure P-3) passed in Criminal Complaint No. NACT-72 of 2019 titled as “**Rajender Kumar Vs. Parveen Kashyap**” by the Judicial Magistrate 1st Class, Fatehabad, whereby, the petitioner has been declared a proclaimed person. A further prayer has been made to quash the FIR No. 333 dated 04.08.2023 under Section 174-A IPC, Police Station Bhuna, Fatehabad (Annexure P-4) and all subsequent proceedings arising therefrom.
2. Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that the complaint (Annexure P-1) was filed by the complainant against the present petitioner under Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments

Act 1881 (hereinafter to be referred as '**the Act**') on 23.01.2019. In the complaint, old address of the petitioner was mentioned by the complainant and as such, the petitioner neither received summons nor the warrants. The correct address of the petitioner was never filed and he can never be served by the trial Court. Ultimately, vide the impugned order dated 21.07.2023 (Annexure P-3), the petitioner was declared to be a proclaimed person and the concerned SHO was directed to register a FIR under Section 174-A IPC. Consequently, FIR No. 333 dated 04.08.2023 under Section 174-A IPC (Annexure P-4) was ordered to be registered at Police Station Bhuna, Fatehabad against the present petitioner.

3. Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that the petitioner was wrongly declared as proclaimed person as incorrect address was mentioned in the complaint by the complainant. However, when he came to know about the registration of the FIR in the present case, he immediately settled the matter with the respondents No. 2/complainant. Consequently, the respondent No. 2/complainant had withdrawn the main complaint under Section 138 of the Act on 07.08.2023. He further contends that the very purpose of the impugned order and FIR was to procure the presence of the petitioner and since the main matter has already stands compromised between the parties, the proceedings arising out of impugned order dated 21.07.2023 (Annexure P-3) and FIR (Annexure P-4) are liable to be quashed by this Court.

3. A co-ordinate Bench of this Court in **CRM-M-43813-2018** titled as “**Baldev Chand Bansal vs. State of Haryana and another**”, decided on 29.01.2019 has held as under:-

“Prayer in this petition is for quashing of FIR No.64 dated 15.02.2017 filed under Section 174-A of the Indian Penal Code registered at Police Station Sector-5, Panchkula and all other subsequent proceedings arising thereof as well as order dated 24.10.2016 passed by the trial Court vide which a direction was issued to register the aforesaid FIR.

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*Learned counsel for the petitioner has relied upon the decisions rendered by this Court in “ **Vikas Sharma vs. Gurpreet Singh Kohli and another (supra)**, 2017, (3) L.A.R.584, **Microqual Techno Limited and others Vs. State of Haryana and another**, 2015 (32) RCR (Crl.) 790 and “**Rajneesh Khanna Vs. State of Haryana and another**” 2017(3) L.A.R. 555 wherein in an identical circumstance, this Court has held that since the main petition filed under Section 138 of the Act stands withdrawn in view of an amicable settlement between the parties, therefore, continuation of proceedings under Section 174A of IPC shall be nothing but an abuse of the process of law.*

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In view of the same, I find merit in the present petition and accordingly, present petition is allowed and the impugned order dated 24.10.2016 passed by Judicial Magistrate, 1st Class, Panchkula as well as FIR No.64 dated 15.02.2017 registered under Section 174-A of the

Indian Penal Code at Police Station Sector-5, Panchkula and all other subsequent proceedings arising thereof, are hereby quashed.”

4. A perusal of the above judgment would show that in a similar case where the FIR had been registered under Section 174-A IPC in view of the order passed in proceedings under Section 138 of the Act, while declaring the petitioner therein as a proclaimed offender, a co-ordinate Bench after relying upon various judgments observed that once the main petition under Section 138 of the Act stands withdrawn in view of an amicable settlement between the parties, the continuation of proceedings under Section 174-A IPC is nothing but an abuse of the process of law. The said aspect was one of the main considerations for allowing the petition and setting aside the order declaring the petitioner therein as a proclaimed person as well as quashing of the FIR under Section 174-A IPC.

5. 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 174A I.P.C. shall be abuse of the process of court.

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

6. In the present case also, the main case has already been withdrawn by the complainant. Consequently, the continuation of the proceedings arising out of order dated 21.07.2023 (Annexure P-3) and FIR No. 333 dated 04.08.2023 under Section 174-A-C, Police Station Bhuna, District Fatehabad (Annexure P-4) would be an abuse of process of the Court. Similar observations have been made by this Court in the matter of **“Anil Kumar Versus Jitender Kumar and another, CRM-M- 5878-2022 decided on 06.04.2022”, “Anil Kumar Versus Jitender Kumar and another, CRM-M-5755-2022 decided on 06.04.2022” and “Varinder Kumar @ Virender Kumar Versus State of Haryana and another, CRM-M-42551- 2021 decided on 19.04.2022”.**

7. In view of the above, the order dated 21.07.2023 (Annexure P-3) and FIR No.333 dated 04.08.2023 under Section 174-A, Police Station Bhuna, District Fatehabad (Annexure P-4)

alongwith all consequential proceedings arising therefrom are hereby
ordered to be quashed.

8. The petition stands allowed.

10.09.2024
amit rana

(N.S.SHEKHAWAT)
JUDGE

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