



IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA  
AT CHANDIGARH

CRM-A-1204-2019  
DECIDED ON: 22.08.2025

ARUN PAHWA

.....APPELLANT

VERSUS

RAVINDER KUMAR LUKRA

.....RESPONDENT

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANDEEP MOUDGIL**

Present: Mr. Sanyam Malhotra, Advocate  
for the appellant

Mr. Hitesh Verma, Advocate for  
Mr. Gourave Bhayyia Gilhotra, Advocate for respondent

**SANDEEP MOUDGIL, J (ORAL)**

1. The present application has been preferred under Section 378(4) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (hereinafter 'Cr.P.C.') seeking grant of leave to appeal the judgment of acquittal dated 11.02.2019 passed by the learned Judicial Magistrate Ist Class, Faridabad in a case filed under Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881 (hereinafter 'NI Act').

2. The Hon'ble Supreme Court in *M/s Celestium Financial vs. A. Gnanasekaran Etc., 2025(3) RCR (Criminal) 208*, after considerable discussion and comparative interpretation of Sections 372 and 378(4) of Cr.P.C., concluded that the victim has a right to file an appeal under Section 372 of Cr.P.C. before the Court of Sessions.

3. Therefore, in view of the judgment rendered by the Apex Court in ***Celestium Financial (supra)***, the present application seeking leave to appeal is remanded back to the learned Sessions Judge, Faridabad with a direction to treat the same as filed under Section 372 of the Cr.P.C. and entrust it to appropriate Court for its disposal.
4. The Registry is directed to send the complete paper-book and the record of the case to the learned Sessions Judge, Faridabad forthwith.
5. Disposed of accordingly.
6. Pending miscellaneous applications, if any, also stand disposed of.

22.08.2025

*Meenu*

**(SANDEEP MOUDGIL)**  
**JUDGE**

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