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**IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH**

**CRM-A-1069-2023 (O&M)
DECIDED ON: 16.07.2025**

NEERAJ KUMAR AND ORS.

...APPLICANTS/APPELLANTS

Versus

KULDEEP SINGH

...RESPONDENT

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANDEEP MOUDGIL

Present: Mr.Rohit Suri, Advocate for the appellant.

SANDEEP MOUDGIL, J.(ORAL)

CRM-32597-2023

This application has been filed under Section 5 of the Limitation Act for condonation of delay of 60 days in filing the appeal.

For the reasons mentioned in the application and in view of the submission made by learned counsel for the applicant, the application is allowed and delay of 60 days in filing the appeal is condoned.

Main Case

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 28.02.2023 passed by the learned Trial Court, Karnal, 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, Karnal 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, Karnal forthwith.

5. Disposed of accordingly.

6. Pending miscellaneous applications, if any, also stand disposed of.

16.07.2025
anuradha

(SANDEEP MOUDGIL)
JUDGE

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