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IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

CRM-A-1368-2023
DECIDED ON: 16.07.2025

GULZAR MEHTA

.....APPELLANT

VERSUS

STATE OF HARYANA AND OTHERS

.....RESPONDENTS

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANDEEP MOUDGIL

Present: Mr. Akhil Kashyap, Advocate
for the appellant.

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 11.08.2023 passed by the learned Judicial Magistrate 1st Class, Ambala in a case stemming from complaint dated 27.03.2019 filed under Section 138/142 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, Ambala 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, Ambala forthwith.
- 5. Disposed of accordingly.
- 6. Pending miscellaneous applications, if any, also stand disposed of.

16.07.2025
Meenu

(SANDEEP MOUDGIL)
JUDGE

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