



CRM-M-44544-2025

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

127

CRM-M-44544-2025

Date of decision: 18th August, 2025

Anoop Jain and another

...Petitioners

Versus

M/s M.R. Trading Company

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE MANISHA BATRA

Present: Mr. P.S. Guliani, Advocate for the petitioners.

MANISHA BATRA, J (ORAL):-

The instant petition has been filed under Section 482 of Cr.P.C. seeking quashing of order dated 17.05.2025 (Annexure P-1), passed by the Court of learned Additional Sessions Judge, Ludhiana in Criminal Appeal No. 512 of 2025, titled as *M/s Anoop Oswal Hosiery and another vs. M/s M.R. Trading company*, whereby, while suspending the sentence of the petitioner No.1, as awarded to him in criminal complaint filed under Section 138 of Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881 (*for short 'N.I. Act'*), the learned appellate Court had directed him to deposit 20% of the compensation amount as awarded by the trial Court within a period of 60 days from the date of passing the order.

2. It is argued by learned counsel for the petitioners that the impugned order is not sustainable in the eyes of law as learned appellate Court, while giving such direction, failed to consider the fact that the deposit of 20% of the compensation amount was not absolute requirement for



suspension of sentence and this condition was to be imposed in exceptional circumstances. Hence, it is urged that the impugned order passed by the appellate Court is liable to be set aside.

3. I have heard learned counsel for the petitioners at considerable length and have also gone through the material placed on record.

4. On a perusal of the record, it is revealed that the learned trial Court, vide judgment of conviction dated 22.04.2025, passed in a complaint filed under Section 138 of N. I. Act, had held petitioner No.1 guilty for commission of offence punishable under the aforementioned Section and apart from awarding sentence to undergo rigorous imprisonment for a period of one year, had also directed him. Petitioners challenged the order passed by the trial Court by filing aforesaid appeal before the learned appellate Court and the appellate Court, vide impugned order dated 17.05.2025, suspended the sentence of petitioner No.1, subject to his depositing 20% of the compensation amount with the trial Court.

5. In *Jamboo Bhandari vs. M. P. State Industrial Development Corporation Ltd. And others : (2024) 1 SCC (Cri) 90*, it was observed by Hon'ble Supreme Court that deposit of 20% of the compensation amount was not an absolute requirement for suspension of sentence, if the Court is satisfied that the condition of such deposit will be unjust or imposing of such a condition will amount to deprivation of the right of appeal of the appellant. This proposition of law is shown to have been followed by the co-ordinate Benches of this Court in *Abdul Rashid's* case (supra) as well as afore cited other similar cases. In the instant case, while imposing condition of deposit of 20% of compensation amount, the learned appellate Court is not shown to



have given any opportunity to the petitioners to make submissions regarding the exceptional circumstances warranting requirement of waiver of depositing of 20% of compensation amount and is shown to have imposed the said condition without the same. Therefore, keeping in view the settled proposition of law to the effect that the appellate Court was firstly required to consider as to whether the instant case falls within the exceptions warranting grant of suspension of sentence without imposing condition of deposit of 20% of compensation amount/fine, the impugned order dated 17.05.2025 cannot be stated to be sustainable to the extent to which the condition of deposit of 20% of the compensation amount was imposed. Accordingly, the same is set aside to that extent. The matter is remanded to learned appellate Court for deciding the same afresh after re-examining the case by granting an opportunity to the petitioners to make submissions regarding exceptional circumstances warranting waiver of requirement of depositing 20% of the compensation amount in pursuance of judgment passed by Hon'ble Supreme Court in ***Jamboo Bhandari***'s case (supra). The petition stands disposed of.

6. The petitioner No.1 being proprietor of M/s Anoop Oswal Hosiery, is directed to appear before the learned Appellate Court on 10.09.2025.

[MANISHA BATRA]
JUDGE

18th August, 2025

Parveen Sharma

1. *Whether speaking/ reasoned*
2. *Whether reportable*

: *Yes / No*
: *Yes / No*