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* **IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI**

\# **CNR No. DLHC010536632023**

\+ CRL.M.C. 9267/2023, CRL.M.A. 34616/2023

RAJU & ANR. .....Petitioners

Through: Mr. Rohit Shukla, Mr, Vivek Kr. Gaurav, Mr. Sunil Parjapati and Mr. Adarsh Kashyap, Advocates.

versus

THE STATE OF NCT OF DELHI & ANR. .....Respondents

Through: Mr. Shoaib Haider, APP for State. SI Dipika, PS-Adarsh Nagar.

CORAM:
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJEEV NARULA

O R D E R

% 02.11.2026

1. The present petition has been filed under Section 482 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973,[1] seeking quashing of FIR No. 893/2022 dated 25th August, 2022,[2] registered at P.S. Adarsh Nagar, Delhi, under Sections 376 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860,[3] along with all consequential proceedings emanating therefrom.

2. The impugned FIR was registered on the complaint of Respondent No. 2, alleging that Petitioner No. 1 had established sexual relations with her on the promise of marriage and subsequently threatened her. She further alleged that Petitioner No. 2, the mother of Petitioner No. 1, had

[1] "CrPC"
[2] "impugned FIR"
[3] "IPC"

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administered medication to her following her pregnancy, resulting in bleeding. During investigation, Section 506 IPC was added. Upon completion of the investigation, a chargesheet was filed under Sections 376/506 IPC against Petitioner No. 1 and under Section 506 IPC against Petitioner No. 2.

3. The parties state that during the pendency of the criminal proceedings, they have amicably resolved their differences and decided to put an end to their disputes. Petitioner No. 1 and Respondent No. 2 solemnised their marriage on 18th January, 2023, according to Muslim rites and ceremonies, which was subsequently registered on 1st February, 2023. The parties thereafter entered into a Memorandum of Understanding dated 19th September, 2023, a copy whereof has been placed on record. It is stated that the settlement has been arrived at voluntarily, without any pressure, coercion or undue influence. The parties further state that Petitioner No. 1 and Respondent No. 2 are presently residing together as husband and wife.

4. Respondent No. 2 is present before the Court and has been identified by the Investigating Officer. She confirms that the settlement has been arrived at voluntarily, without any pressure, coercion or undue influence. She states that she is now happily married to Petitioner No. 1 and that they have two children. She explains that the impugned FIR was lodged under the impression that Petitioner No. 1 would not fulfil his promise to marry her, and that the allegations were made out of anger arising from this apprehension. She further states that Petitioner No. 1 has since married her, that she has no surviving grievance against him and does not wish to pursue the criminal proceedings any further. She states that she has no objection to the quashing of the impugned FIR and all consequential proceedings.

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5. The Court has considered the facts and submissions. Notably, the offence under Sections 376 IPC is non-compoundable, while the offence under Sections 506 IPC is compoundable in certain cases.

6. It is well settled that the power of the High Court under Section 482 CrPC [corresponding to Section 528 BNSS] to quash criminal proceedings is distinct from the power of compounding under Section 320 CrPC. This power may be exercised even in cases involving non-compoundable offences where the parties have settled the matter. However, the power is to be exercised sparingly and with caution, having regard to the nature and gravity of the offence and the circumstances of the case. In ***Narinder Singh & Ors. v. State of Punjab & Anr.***[4], the Supreme Court held that criminal cases having an overwhelmingly and predominantly civil character, particularly those arising out of matrimonial relationships or family disputes, stand on a distinct footing where the parties have resolved their entire disputes. The Court further held that, in such cases, the High Court may quash the proceedings where, having regard to the settlement, the possibility of conviction is remote and bleak, and continuation of the criminal proceedings would serve no useful purpose. These principles have similarly been reiterated in ***Parbatbhai Aahir @ Parbatbhai Bhimsinhbhai Karmur & Ors. v. State of Gujarat & Anr***[5]**.**

7. In the present case, although the allegations under Section 376 IPC are serious in nature, the circumstances in which they arose merit consideration. Respondent No. 2 has personally appeared before the Court and explained that the allegations, including those against Petitioner No. 2,

[4] (2014) 6 SCC 466.
[5] (2017) 9 SCC 641.

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arose out of anger and misunderstanding, particularly her apprehension that Petitioner No. 1 would not fulfil his promise of marriage. She has since voluntarily settled her disputes with the Petitioners and has expressed her unwillingness to pursue the criminal proceedings.

8. Significantly, Petitioner No. 1 and Respondent No. 2 are now married, are residing together and have two children. Their matrimonial relationship has continued since the registration of the impugned FIR, and Respondent No. 2 has confirmed that she is happily married and has no surviving grievance against the Petitioners. In these circumstances, the possibility of securing a conviction appears remote, while continuation of the criminal proceedings would only place an unnecessary strain on their matrimonial and family life. The Court is therefore satisfied that this is a fit case for exercise of its inherent jurisdiction under Section 482 CrPC.

9. Accordingly, the present petition is allowed. The impugned FIR No. 893/2022 along with all consequential proceedings emanating therefrom, is hereby quashed.

10. The parties shall abide by the terms of settlement.

11. The present petition is disposed of in the aforesaid terms. Pending application(s), if any, shall also stand disposed of.

SANJEEV NARULA, J

NOVEMBER 2, 2026
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