
(2018) 09 P&H CK 0078

In the Punjab And Haryana At Chandigarh

Case No : Criminal Miscellaneous -M- No.12605 of 2018

Joginder Kaur and others

APPELLANT

Vs

State of Punjab and another

RESPONDENT

Date of Decision : 13-09-2018

Acts Referred:

Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 — Section 482

Indian Penal Code, 1860 — Section 148, 149, 427, 435, 506

Citation : (2018) 09 P&H CK 0078

Hon'ble Judges : Arvind Singh Sangwan, J

Bench : Single Bench

Advocate : Sahil Khunger, Deepankur Sharma, M. S. Nagra, Sanjeev Kinra

Final Decision : Allowed

Judgement

By way of the present petition, filed under Section 482 Cr.P.C., the petitioners have prayed for quashing of FIR No. 88 dated 22.05.2016, registered

under Sections 435, 427, 506, 148 and 149 of the IPC at Police Station Kamboj, District Amritsar (Annexure P-1) and all the subsequent proceedings

arising therefrom, on the basis of the compromise dated 04.05.2017 (Annexure P-2) entered into between the parties.

Vide order dated 26.03.2018, the parties were directed to appear before the trial Court and the trial Court was directed to record the statements of the

parties and submit a report regarding number of persons arrayed as accused in the FIR; whether any accused is proclaimed offender; whether the

compromise is genuine, voluntary and without any coercion or undue influence and whether any accused person is involved in any other FIR.

A report dated 26.04.2018 has been submitted by the JMIC,

Amritsar, wherein it has been reported that statements of the petitioners and

respondent No. 2 have been recorded and statements made by the parties in the Court reveal that they have voluntarily entered into a compromise and the Court is satisfied that the parties have amicably settled their dispute without any fear, pressure, threat or coercion and out of their free will. It is also reported that none of the petitioners has been declared proclaimed offender and the petitioners are not involved in any other FIR. Learned counsel for the petitioners submits that no other criminal case is pending between the parties and none of the petitioners is a proclaimed offender.

Learned State counsel, on instructions from the Investigating Officer, has not disputed the fact that the parties have arrived at a settlement with an intent to give burial to their differences.

I have heard learned counsel for the parties and perused the case file.

As per the Full Bench judgment of this Court in Kulwinder Singh and others Vs. State of Punjab, 2007 (3) RCR (Criminal) 1052, it is held that the

High Court has power under Section 482 Cr.P.C. to allow the compounding of non-compoundable offence and quash the prosecution where the High

Court feel that the same was required to prevent the abuse of the process of law or otherwise to secure the ends of justice. This power of quashing is

not confined to matrimonial disputes alone.

Hon'ble Apex Court in the case of Gian Singh Vs. State of Punjab and another, 2012 (4) RCR (Criminal) 543, has held as under:-

â??The position that emerges from the above discussion can be summarised thus: the power of the High Court in quashing a criminal proceeding or

FIR or complaint in exercise of its inherent jurisdiction is distinct and different from the power given to a criminal court for compounding the offences

under Section 320 of the Code. Inherent power is of wide plenitude with no statutory limitation but it has to be exercised in accord with the guideline

engrafted in such power viz; (i) to secure the ends of justice or (ii) to prevent abuse of the process of any Court. In what cases power to quash the

criminal proceeding or complaint or F.I.R may be exercised where the offender and victim have settled their dispute would depend on the facts and

circumstances of each case and no category can be prescribed. However, before exercise of such power, the High Court must have due regard to the

nature and gravity of the crime. Heinous and serious offences of mental depravity or offences like murder, rape, dacoity, etc. cannot be fittingly

quashed even though the victim or victim's family and the offender have settled the dispute. Such offences are not private in nature and have

serious impact on society. Similarly, any compromise between the victim and offender in relation to the offences under special statutes like Prevention

of Corruption Act or the offences committed by public servants while working in that capacity etc; cannot provide for any basis for quashing criminal

proceedings involving such offences. But the criminal cases having overwhelmingly and predominatingly civil flavour stand on different footing for the

purposes of quashing, particularly the offences arising from commercial, financial, mercantile, civil, partnership or such like transactions or the

offences arising out of matrimony relating to dowry, etc. or the family disputes where the wrong is basically private or personal in nature and the

parties have resolved their entire dispute. In this category of cases, High Court may quash criminal

proceedings if in its view, because of the compromise between the offender and victim, the possibility of conviction is remote and bleak and

continuation of criminal case would put accused to great oppression and prejudice and extreme injustice would be caused to him by not quashing the

criminal case despite full and complete settlement and compromise with the victim. In other words, the High Court must consider whether it would be

unfair or contrary to the interest of justice to continue with the criminal proceeding or continuation of the criminal proceeding would tantamount to

abuse of process of law despite settlement and compromise between the victim and wrongdoer and whether to secure the ends of justice, it is

appropriate that criminal case is put to an end and if the answer to the above question(s) is in affirmative, the High Court shall be well within its

jurisdiction to quash the criminal proceeding.

Since the parties have arrived at a compromise and have decided to live in peace, no useful purpose would be served in allowing the criminal

proceedings to continue.

In view of the above discussion, present petition is allowed and FIR No. 88 dated 22.05.2016, registered under Sections 435, 427, 506, 148 and 149 of

the IPC at Police Station Kamboj, District Amritsar (Annexure P-1) and all the subsequent proceedings arising therefrom are ordered to be quashed

qua the petitioners herein, however, subject to payment of costs of Rs.3,000/- to be deposited with the District Legal Services

Authority, Amritsar.