



IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT
CHANDIGARH

283

CRM-M-47118-2025

Date of decision: 30.09.2025

VIJAY MASIH AND OTHERS

...PETITIONERS

V/s

STATE OF PUNJAB AND OTHERS

...RESPONDENTS

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUMEET GOEL

Present: Mr. Ritesh Pandey, Advocate for the petitioners.

Mr. Gaurav Gurcharan S. Rai, Sr. DAG, Punjab.

Mr. Azam Khan, Advocate for
Mr. Pooja, Advocate for respondents No.2 to 6.

SUMEET GOEL, J.

1. The present petition has been filed under Section 528 of BNSS, 2023 for quashing of FIR No.0008 dated 16.01.2019 under Sections 452, 323, 324, 326, 506, 148, 149 of IPC, registered at Police Station Qadian, Tehsil Batala District Batala and all consequential proceedings arising therefrom on the basis of compromise dated 31.07.2025 (Annexure P-2), which is stated to have been effected between the parties.

2. On 27.08.2025, the following order was passed:

“The petitioners have approached this Court seeking quashing of FIR (Annexure P-1) and all consequential proceedings emanating therefrom on the basis of a compromise having been effected between the parties. Learned counsel for the petitioners has submitted that all concerned are parties to the present petition in terms of the dicta of the Division Bench judgment of this Court passed in ‘Rakesh Das Vs. State of Haryana and another’, Neutral Citation: 2024:PHHC;147654-DB.

Notice of motion.

At this stage, Mr. Gurpartap S. Bhullar, AAG, Punjab has put in appearance on behalf of respondent No.1-State of Punjab and accepts notice.



Ms. Pooja, Advocate has filed memorandum of appearance for respondent Nos.2 to 6. The same be taken on record.

The parties are directed to get their statements recorded qua the factum of compromise in the following manner:

(i) The parties shall appear before the trial Court/Illaqa Magistrate concerned on 15.09.2025 or any date thereafter as fixed by trial Court/Illaqa Magistrate for recording statements of the petitioner as well as of the complainant qua the factum of compromise. As and when any such appearance is made, the trial Court/Illaqa Magistrate shall do the needful for recording the statements of the parties qua the factum of the compromise. It shall be open to the trial Court/Illaqa Magistrate to either record the statements of the parties by physical process or by video conferencing as deemed appropriate by the trial Court/Illaqa Magistrate.

(ii) In case the statement is to be recorded by way of video conferencing, the parties concerned shall be duly identified through video conferencing by their respective counsel, subject to the satisfaction of the Presiding Officer.

(iii) The trial Court/Illaqa Magistrate may also choose to get the statements of the parties recorded through some Commissioner, appointed by the Court who would be some Advocate having sufficient standing at the Bar. In case the statement is recorded through some Commissioner, such Commissioner/Advocate shall furnish an affidavit after recording statements to the effect that the parties had appeared before him/her and he/she had recorded their statements as per law and that the said parties had been duly identified by their respective counsel. This shall be subject to satisfaction of trial Court/Illaqa Magistrate.

After recording the statements of all the affected parties in either of the aforesaid manner, the trial Court/Illaqa Magistrate shall submit its report on the basis of the statements so recorded as to whether all the affected parties have entered into a compromise and as to whether the compromise in question is found to be a valid compromise and has been effected without there being any kind of influence or coercion.

The trial Court/Illaqa Magistrate shall also report as regards the following facts after seeking information from Investigating Officer, concerned:

(i) Whether there is any other accused other than the petitioner, arrayed in this petition?

(ii) Whether there is any other complainant or affected/ aggrieved party other than the respondents, arrayed in the petition?

(iii) Whether any accused has been declared Proclaimed Offender?

The report be submitted before this Court before the next date of hearing i.e. 30.09.2025.

The petitioners are directed to deposit a sum of ₹30,000/- as costs with the High Court Lawyers Welfare Fund, Bank details whereof reads thus:

Account No.65018692589;

IFSC Code: SBIN0050306;

Branch Code: 50306;

Bank: State Bank of India, High Court Branch, Chandigarh

Payment of costs and production of receipt thereof shall be a condition precedent for recording of statements in the manner directed for hereinabove."



3. Pursuant to the aforesaid order, report dated 17.09.2025 from Judicial Magistrate Ist Class, Batala has been received, which is taken on record. As per the report, the Trial Court has recorded as follows:-

“(1). In the present FIR, forty respondents/accused persons namely Sukha son of Kullu Masih, Sucha Masih son of Jajal Masih, Manga Masih alias Gaggi son of Shinda Maish, Mohan Masih son of Beera Masih, Lafeeja wife of Kashmir Masih. Gogi wife of Tarsem Masih(declared innocent), Rinku Masih alias Pinka Masih son of Tarsem Masih(declared innocent), Vidya wife of William Masih, Bevy alias Baavi wife of Raja Masih, Ninder wife of Basir Masih. Samueal Masih son of Rashid Masih alfas Saheed Masih, Rajan Masih son of Shinda Masih. Yusaf Masih son of Mustaq Masih. Laadi Masih alias Mukhtar Masih son of Bachan Masih. Saajan Masih son of Shinda Masih.. Patras Masih son of Chinda Maish, Alien Masih son of Jaga Masih, Mustaq Masih son of Kashmir Masih. Mustaq Masih son of Mangi Masih. Maanu Masih son of Kullu Masih, Thomas Masih son of Sardool Masih, Buntty Masih son of Maanu Masih, David Masih son of Baau Masih. Ashok Masih son of Mangi Masih. Kewal Masih son of Niyamat Masih. Soni Masih alias Sunil Masih son of Basir Masih(in custody produced through Video Conferencing). Ajay Masih son of Sucha Masih, Mukhtar Masih son of Niyamai Masih, Sunny Masih son of Farman Masih, Muktar Masih son of Mangi Masih. Monu Masih son of Mukhtar Masih, Mansa Masih son of Sikandar Masih, Kuldeep Masih son of Sucha Masih. Jeeta Masih alias Sandeep Masih son of Sucha Masih, Shabnam wife of Vijay Masih, Akash Masih son of Dalbir Masih, Buta Masih son of Mukhtar Masih and Vijay Masih son of Mangi Masih, Shinda Masih son of Shama Masih(since died) Prince Masih son of Basir Masih(since died) are arrayed as accused in the present FIR.

(ii). In the present FIR, petitioner no. 2 Rupa wife of(since deceased) Kafal Masih son of Jamesh Masih, injured/respondent no.3 Vaivel Masih son of Jamesh Masih, injured/respondent no. 4 Shanti wife of Jamesh Masih through her husband Jamesh Masih son of Hazara Masih, injured/respondent no. 5 Alisha son of Sudesh Masih alias Desa Masih(through Video Conferencing) and injured/respondent no.6 Jamesh Masih son of Hazara Masih are arrayed in the present petition and no any other complainant or affected/aggrieved party in the petition.

(iii). No accused/respondents have been declared proclaimed offender in the present FIR.

(iv) In view of the statements got recorded by both the parties, this court is satisfied that the compromise effected between them is genuine, which is not the result of any kind of influence or coercion or pressure.”

4. Learned counsel for respondent Nos.2 to 6 admits the fact of parties having compromised and states that he has no objection in case the FIR and all proceedings subsequent thereto against the petitioners are quashed.



5. Similarly, learned State counsel has stated no objection in case the FIR is quashed based upon the compromise (Annexure P-2).

6. I have heard learned Counsel for the parties and have carefully gone through the records of the case.

7. This Court and the Hon'ble Apex Court has repeatedly dealt with the issue of exercise of jurisdiction under Section 482 of the Code to quash proceeding in non-compoundable offences in the cases of ***Gian Singh vs. State of Punjab and another, 2012(10) SCC 303, Kulwinder Singh & others vs. State of Punjab & another, 2007 (3) RCR (Criminal) 1052 and Ram Gopal and another vs. State of Madhya Pradesh, 2021(4) R.C.R. (Criminal) 322 (Criminal Appeal No.1489 of 2012 decided on 29th of September, 2021)***. The proposition of law that emerges from the aforesaid decisions rendered by the Hon'ble Apex Court and this Court is :

- (a) *Power u/s 482 Cr.P.C. vested with this Court is much wider and is unaffected by Section 320 of the Code.*
- (b) *However, wider the power greater the caution.*
- (c) *The underlining principle while exercising such power is that it can be invoked to quash the proceedings recognizing compromise between the parties in the matters which are overwhelmingly and predominantly of civil character like commercial transactions or arising out of matrimonial relationship or family disputes.*
- (d) *The said power is not to be exercised in the prosecutions involving heinous and serious offences of mental depravity or offences like murder, rape, dacoity etc. as such offences are not private in nature and have a serious impact on society.*



- (e) *Section 482 Cr.P.C. casts duty upon the High Court to advance interest of justice as well. It is in recognition of this duty casted upon the High Court, that Apex Court held that the High Court would not refuse to quash FIR under Section 307 merely because FIR finds mention thereof. High Court can assess nature of injuries sustained, whether such injuries inflicted on vital/delicate parts of the body/nature of weapons used etc.*
- (f) *Such exercise at the hands of High Court would be permissible only after the evidence is collected after investigation and chargesheet is filed/charges framed during the trial. Such exercise cannot be carried out while the matter is still under investigation.*
- (g) *While quashing FIR in non-compoundable offences even which are of private in nature, High Court is required to consider antecedents of the accused, conduct of the accused and whether he was absconding or whether he has managed the complainant to enter into a compromise.*

The statutory provision of Section 528 of BNSS, 2023 is same as the statutory provision of Section 482 of Cr.P.C., 1973. Therefore, the above said principles of law would apply to a petition under Section 528 of BNSS, 2023 as well.

8. Thus, keeping in view the aforesaid facts and circumstances, this Court is of the considered opinion that it is a fit case to exercise jurisdiction vested u/s 528 of BNSS,2023 to quash the FIR as :-

- (i) *Putting a quietus to the proceedings will bring peace and tranquility amongst parties & will accordingly further the cause of substantial justice.*
- (ii) *The offences alleged are primarily of private nature.*

- (iii) *The parties have compromised.*
- (iv) *As per the report received the compromise is said to be voluntary in its nature.*
- (v) *Complainant/victim is reported to have entered into compromise on his own volition.*

9. Consequently, the petition is allowed. FIR No.0008 dated 16.01.2019 under Sections 452, 323, 324, 326, 506, 148, 149 of IPC, registered at Police Station Qadian, Tehsil Batala District Batala and all consequential proceedings arising therefrom on the basis of compromise dated 31.07.2025 (Annexure P-2), are, hereby, quashed qua the petitioners.

10. Pending application(s), if any, shall also stand disposed of.

(SUMEET GOEL)
JUDGE

30.09.2025
jatin

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