

BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED : 14.07.2026

CORAM:

THE HONOURABLE **MRS.JUSTICE L.VICTORIA GOWRI**

Crl.R.C.(MD)No.1030 of 2026
& Crl.M.P.(MD)No.13933 of 2026

K.P.Natarajan

... Petitioner

Vs.

P.Sakthivel

... Respondent

PRAYER : Revision filed under Sections 438 & 442 of BNSS, 2023 to call for the records and set aside the conviction and sentence imposed in Crl.A.No.261 of 2025 dated 22.04.2026 on the file of the District and Sessions Judge, Karur confirming the judgment of the learned Judicial Magistrate, Fast Track Court @ Magisterial Level, Karur in CC No.124 of 2019 dated 25.09.2025 and acquit the petitioner by allowing this criminal revision petition.

For Petitioner : Mr.T.Veldurai

For Respondent : Mr.B.Karthick Durai Pandian

ORDER

This Criminal Revision Petition is filed to call for the records and set aside the conviction and sentence imposed in Crl.A.No.261 of 2025 dated



22.04.2026 on the file of the District and Sessions Judge, Karur confirming the judgment of the learned Judicial Magistrate, Fast Track Court @ Magisterial Level, Karur in CC No.124 of 2019 dated 25.09.2025 and acquit the petitioner by allowing this criminal revision petition.

2. The gist of the complaint is that on 21.10.2017, the petitioner borrowed a sum of Rs.9,50,000/- agreeing to repay the same at the rate of interest of Rs.1.00 for Rs.100 per month and in discharge of the said loan, issued a cheque dated 24.09.2018 and when the same was presented, the same was returned on the ground that 'account blocked covered 21'. Therefore, the complainant issued a notice dated 12.12.2018. However, the revision petitioner did not come forward to issue reply notice and hence the complainant preferred the complaint. A case has been registered before the learned Judicial Magistrate, Fast Track Court @ Magisterial Level, Karur in CC No.124 of 2019. By order dated 25.09.2025, the learned Magistrate convicted the petitioner for the offences under Section 138 of Negotiable instruments Act, sentencing him to undergo one year simple imprisonment and also to pay the compensation of Rs.9,50,000/- and in default of payment, to undergo simple imprisonment for another one month. An appeal has been filed in Crl.A.No.261 of 2025 before the learned District and Sessions Judge, Karur and by order



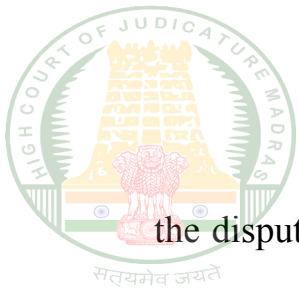
dated 22.04.2026, the same was dismissed, confirming the order of the trial Court. Seeking to set aside the same, this Criminal Revision Case is filed.

3. Admittedly, the petitioner and the respondent are known to each other and they have now resolved the dispute amicably. A Joint Compromise Memo dated 04.07.2026 has been filed before this Court. Already an amount of Rs.9,50,000/- has been deposited to the credit of CC No.124 of 2019 before the learned Judicial Magistrate, Fast Track Court @ Magisterial Level, Karur.

4. The petitioner and the respondent / defacto complainant are present before this Court in person and are identified by themselves. The defacto complainant has categorically stated that he does not wish to pursue the proceedings against the petitioner herein. This Court is satisfied that the compromise is voluntary and not the result of any coercion or undue influence.

5. The law relating to quashment of criminal proceedings on the basis of compromise between the parties is well settled. In ***Gian Singh v. State of Punjab***¹, the Hon'ble Supreme Court authoritatively held that the inherent power of the High Court is of wide amplitude and may be exercised to quash criminal proceedings even in respect of non-compoundable offences, provided

¹ 2012 (10) SCC 303



the dispute is essentially private in nature and the quashment would secure the ends of justice. The Court, however, drew a clear distinction between offences arising out of personal or matrimonial disputes, commercial transactions and similar private wrongs, and serious or heinous offences having grave impact on society, holding that the latter category cannot ordinarily be quashed merely on the basis of a settlement.

6. The said principles were succinctly crystallised in *Parbatbhai Aahir v. State of Gujarat*², wherein the Supreme Court, after surveying the earlier precedents, laid down broad propositions governing the exercise of inherent jurisdiction on the basis of compromise. It was emphasised that the paramount consideration is whether the continuance of the criminal proceedings would be unfair or contrary to the interests of justice, and whether the dispute predominantly bears a civil or private character, rendering the possibility of conviction remote and bleak.

7. In *State of Madhya Pradesh v. Laxmi Narayan*³, the Supreme Court reiterated and clarified the limitations on such power, holding that offences of a serious nature, particularly those involving mental depravity, grave violence, or

² 2017 (9) SCC 641

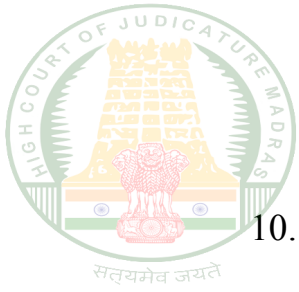
³ 2019 (5) SCC 688



offences against society at large, cannot be quashed on the basis of compromise, even if the parties have amicably settled the dispute. The Court further cautioned that while examining compromise quash petitions, the High Court must consider the nature and gravity of the offence, the conduct of the accused, and the stage of the proceedings, and the overall impact on society and must satisfy itself that the settlement is voluntary and not the result of coercion or undue influence.

8. Applying the aforesaid principles to the facts of the present case, this Court has carefully examined the nature and gravity of the allegations, the relationship between the parties, the conduct of the petitioners, the stage of the proceedings, and the voluntary nature of the compromise.

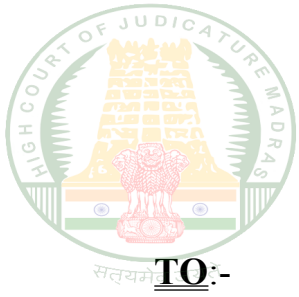
9. The dispute in question is predominantly private in character and does not involve any offence having serious or grave impact on society at large. In view of the compromise arrived at between the parties, the possibility of conviction is rendered remote and bleak. Continuation of the criminal proceedings would therefore serve no useful purpose and would amount to an abuse of the process of Court.



10. Accordingly, the judgment of conviction and sentence imposed by the learned District and Sessions Judge, Karur in Crl.A.No.261 of 2025 on 22.04.2026 in confirming the conviction and sentence passed by the Judicial Magistrate, Fast Track Court @ Magisterial Level, Karur in CC No.124 of 2019 on 25.09.2025 is set aside and this Criminal Revision Case is allowed. The de facto complainant is permitted to withdraw the amount deposited by the petitioner before the trial Court, by filing suitable application. The joint compromise memo dated 04.07.2026 shall form part and parcel of this order. Consequently, connected miscellaneous petition is closed.

14.07.2026

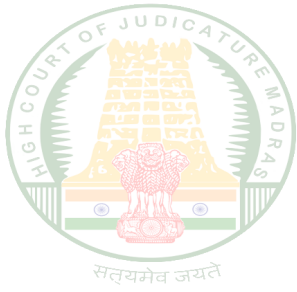
NCC : Yes / No
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TO:-

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1. The District and Sessions Judge, Karur.
2. The Judicial Magistrate, Fast Track Court @ Magisterial Level, Karur.
3. The Additional Public Prosecutor,
Madurai Bench of Madras High Court,
Madurai.



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Case Citation: (2026) ibclaw.in 4815 HC



Crl.R.C.(MD)No.1030 of 2026

L.VICTORIA GOWRI, J.

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Order made in
Crl.R.C.(MD)No.1030 of 2026

Dated
14.07.2026