IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. OF 2026

(Arising Out Of Special Leave Petition (Criminal) No. 20575/2025)

NAGARAJAN **Appellant(s)**

VERSUS

GOPALKRISHNAN NAIR **Respondent(s)**

O R D E R

Heard learned counsel for the parties.

2. Leave granted.

3. Learned counsel for the parties state that a similar Special Leave Petition (Criminal) No.19633 of 2025 filed by the wife of appellant against the respondent has been disposed of in terms of the settlement dated 24.04.2026 in cheque bouncing cases under Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881. A copy of the settlement dated 24.04.2026 has been handed over by the learned counsel for the parties in the Court. The same is taken on record.

4. Learned counsel for the parties further state that the said settlement would also govern the present proceedings. They also state that the respondent-complainant has received the entire amount in terms of the settlement agreement recorded before the Mediation and Conciliation Centre of the High Court of Judicature at Madras on 24.04.2026. The terms of the aforesaid settlement read as under:-

"1. The Parties of the First Part agree to pay a total sum of Rs.70,00,000/- (Rupees Seventy Lakhs only) to the Party of the Second Part towards full and final settlement of all claims arising out of the subject transactions.

2. The above said amount has been paid by the Parties of the First Part to the Part`y of the Second Part by way of two RTGS and one Demand Draft as follows:

1. RTGS Transaction No. UTR: CIU BH26111405540 dated 21.04.2026 for a sum of Rs. 35,00,000 (Rupees Thirty Five Lakhs Only)

2. RTGS Transaction No. UTR: CIU BH26111405358 dated 21.04.2026 for a sum of Rs. 20,00,000 (Rupees Twenty Lakhs Only)

3. Demand Draft No. 070456 dated 24.04.2026 drawn on City Union Bank, Koilambakkam Branch for a sum of Rs. 15,00,000 (Rupees Fifteen Lakhs Only)

The Party of the Second Part hereby acknowledges receipt of the entire settlement amount, subject to realization of the Demand Draft.

This settlement is subject to the realisation of the demand draft and in case the amount is not credited to the account of the party of the second part for any reason whatsoever, the entire settlement is void ab initio and he is entitled to all remedies available in law.

3. The Party of the Second Part agrees:

To appear before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in the pending SLPs;
To give consent / no objection for compounding of the offence under Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act;
To cooperate for setting aside the conviction recorded by the Courts below.

4. The Party of the Second Part agrees:
Not to initiate any further execution proceedings or any fresh proceedings based on the decrees passed in O.S. Nos.113/2016 and 114/2016;
That the decrees shall be treated as satisfied in view of this settlement.

> *5. That the Party of the Second Part shall apply for refund of the full court fees paid in the two suits viz. O.S. Nos.113/2016 and 114/2016 and the party of the FIRST PART has got no objection to the same.*
>
> *6. No Further Claims Both parties hereby agree that:*
> *This settlement is in full and final satisfaction of all claims;"*

5. In view of the above, the impugned order dated 10.06.2025 passed by the High Court of Judicature at Madras in CRLRC No. 922/2023 and conviction and sentence imposed upon the appellant are set aside, and the appellant is acquitted of the charge under Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881.

6. Accordingly, the present appeal stands disposed of.

7. Pending applications, if any, also stand disposed of.

.....J.
(AHSANUDDIN AMANULLAH)

.....J.
(MANMOHAN)

NEW DELHI
OCTOBER 14th, 2026

ITEM NO.48 COURT NO.8 SECTION II-C

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Petition(s) for Special Leave to Appeal (Crl.) No(s). 20575/2025

[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 10-06-2025 in CRLRC No. 922/2023 passed by the High Court of Judicature at Madras]

NAGARAJAN Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

GOPALKRISHNAN NAIR Respondent(s)

IA No. 296914/2025 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.

Date : 14-10-2026 This matter was called for hearing today.

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AHSANUDDIN AMANULLAH
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MANMOHAN

For Petitioner(s) : Dr. G. Sivabalamurugan- 2197, AoR

For Respondent(s) : Mr. P. S. Sudheer- 1603, AoR
Mr. M. Vijayan, Adv.
Mr. P. S. Sudheer, AoR
Mr. Rishi Maheshwari, Adv.
Ms. Anne Mathew, Adv.
Mr. Bharat Sood, Adv.
Mr. Jashan Vir Singh, Adv.

O R D E R

Heard learned counsel for the parties.

2. Leave granted.

3. The appeal stands disposed of in terms of the signed order which is placed on the file.

4. Pending applications, if any, stand disposed of.

(SACHIN KUMAR SRIVASTAVA)
COURT MASTER (SH)

(ANJALI PANWAR)
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR