

**IN THE SPECIAL COURT OF THE JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE OF THE
FIRST CLASS FOR THE TRIAL OF CASES UNDER S. 138 OF THE
NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENTS ACT, 1881 ERNAKULAM**

Present: Sri. Vysakh Vijayan
Dated 16th day of January, 2026
C.M.P 5767/2025

Petitioner	: M/s. Manappuram Finance Ltd., a company incorporated under Indian Companies Act 1956 and having its Registered office at Manappuram House, Valappad Village & Desom, Valappad P.O., Thrissur, Kerala – 680567, represented by its Authorized signatory Antony Stanslawaus, S/o. IS Stanslawaus, aged 34 years, Valappad, Thrissur – 680567, authorized signatory and assistant manager C.V. Finance, M/s. Manappuram Finance Ltd. (By Adv. Suja Mathew)
Respondent	: Sarath K Sreenivasan, aged 32 years, Kollaparambil House, Anandapuram, Thrissur – 680305.
Offence	: S. 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act.

ORDER

This is an application filed to condone the delay of 103 days in filing the complaint under S. 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act.

2. Case of the petitioner is that a delay of 103 days has occurred in filing the complaint for the offence punishable under S. 138 of the Act against the respondent. It is because the revised court fee structure came in to effect from 29.07.2024 and the account section had to scrutinize the court fee bill and sent to head office for sanction and it had taken some time to sanction the court fee.

3. Notice was issued to the respondent. It was returned with endorsement 'unclaimed'. Heard.

4. On perusal, it is noticed that there is a delay of 103 days in filing the complaint. No objection has been raised by the respondent. I do not find any

ground to disbelieve the case of the petitioner. Rather, I consider the cause for delay stated by the petitioner as sufficient to condone it. Hence, I am of the view that this application shall be allowed in the interests of justice.

In the result, the application stands allowed. Delay occurred in filing the complaint stands condoned.

(Pronounced in open court this the 16th day of January, 2026)

**Sd/-
Vysakh Vijayan
Judicial Magistrate of the First Class
Ernakulam.**

//True copy//

**Judicial Magistrate of the First Class
Ernakulam.**