



**IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH**

237

**CRR-3216-2025 (O&M)
Date of decision: 12.05.2026**

Daljit Singh**...Petitioner**

VERSUS

Balwinder Singh & anr.**...Respondents****CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VINOD S. BHARDWAJ**

Present :- Mr. Vipin Mahajan, Sr. Advocate with
Mr. Utkrant Mahajan, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. J.S. Mahal, Advocate
for respondent No.1.

Mr. Mohit Kapoor, Sr. DAG, Punjab.

VINOD S. BHARDWAJ, J. (Oral)

1. The present revision petition has been filed against the judgment of conviction and order of sentence dated 25.04.2019 passed by the Judicial Magistrate First Class, Amritsar, whereby the petitioner had been convicted for the commission of offence under Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881 and had been sentenced to undergo rigorous imprisonment for a period of two years and has also been directed to pay compensation of Rs.13,10,000/- to the complainant under Section 357(3) Cr.P.C and in default of payment of compensation to further undergo rigorous imprisonment for a period of two months. A further challenge is to the judgment dated 14.11.2025 passed in Criminal Appeal bearing No.CRA/325/2019 by the Additional Sessions Judge, Amritsar, whereby the appeal was also dismissed.
2. Aggrieved thereof, the instant petition has been filed.
3. When the matter came up for hearing on 19.01.2026, the



following order was passed:-

“Learned Senior counsel for the petitioner contends that a sum of Rs.6,55,000/- has already been deposited by the petitioner in the Court of Judicial Magistrate 1st Class, Amritsar, vide receipt No.7107 dated 22.12.2025 copy thereof has been placed on record as Annexure P-5 with CRM-368-2026. He further contends that the balance amount of Rs.6,55,000/- shall be deposited within a further period of 15 days.

In the interest of justice, adjourned to 06.04.2026.

In the meanwhile, the remaining sentence of the petitioner shall remain suspended till the next date of hearing, subject to him furnishing bail and surety bonds to the satisfaction of learned Chief Judicial Magistrate/Duty Magistrate, concerned enabling him to make the balance payment.”

4. Learned Senior counsel for the petitioner contends that he has complied with the aforesaid undertaking and has already deposited a sum of Rs.13,10,000/- with the Illaqa Magistrate. He further contends that apart therefrom, a sum of Rs.2,62,000/-, being 20% of the compensation amount, was deposited by the petitioner before the Appellate Court under Section 148 of the Negotiable Instruments Act. He submits that he would have no objection to the release of the aforesaid amount of Rs.13,10,000/-, which stands deposited with the Illaqa Magistrate, to the respondent-complainant and that he shall also have no objection to the payment of an additional amount to the tune of 10% of the compensation amount towards compounding of the offences. It is submitted that an amount of Rs.2,62,000/- is already deposited with the Appellate Court, in addition to Rs.13,10,000/- deposited with the Illaqa Magistrate and that a sum of



Rs.1,31,000/- out of the amount of Rs.2,62,000/- may also be released to respondent No.1-complainant by the appellate Court and the balance amount of Rs.1,31,000/- be released to the petitioner.

5. Learned counsel appearing for respondent No.1 does not have any objection to the same and concedes that an amount of Rs.6,55,000/- has been deposited in the Court of Judicial Magistrate First Class, Amritsar vide receipt No.7115, dated 27.01.2026 and he has already moved an application for release of the said amount in his favour.

6. Learned counsel contends that offences under the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881, are compoundable under Section 147. It is contended that the power of compounding may be invoked even at the stage of the revision petition. Counsel further contends that as both the parties agree to the compounding, hence the petition be allowed since final resolution of a conflict is the finest hour of justice.

7. In view of the aforesaid agreement arrived at between the parties, the instant revision petition is allowed and judgment of conviction and order of sentence dated 25.04.2019 passed by the Judicial Magistrate First Class, Amritsar, in Complaint Case No.1865 of 2017, titled as 'Balwinder Singh Vs. Daljit Singh' under Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881, and the judgment dated 14.11.2025 passed by the Additional Sessions Judge, Amritsar, in Criminal Appeal bearing No.CRA/325/2019, dated 24.05.2019, dismissing the appeal preferred by the petitioner are set aside. The petitioner is acquitted of the offence under Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act.

8. The complainant shall however be at liberty to move an application for release of Rs.13,10,000/- before the trial Court as well as for release of Rs.1,31,000/- in his favour before the Additional Sessions Judge.

**CRR-3216-2025 (O&M)**

-4-

2026:PHHC:075263

The balance amount of Rs.1,31,000/- from the amount of Rs.2,62,000/- deposited before the Appellate Court under Section 148 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881, at the time of appeal, be released in favour of the petitioner.

9. The petitioner, if confined in jail and if not required in any other case, be released forthwith, in accordance with law.

10. CRM-369-2026 seeking compounding of offence under Section 147 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881, is accordingly allowed.

11. Since the main case itself has been decided, miscellaneous applications (CRM-50734-2025) seeking suspension of sentence and (CRM-370-2026) seeking interim suspension of sentence during the pendency of the present petition also stands disposed of as having been rendered infructuous.

12. Pending application(s), if any, shall also dispose of.

12.05.2026

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(VINOD S. BHARDWAJ)**JUDGE*****Whether speaking/reasoned* : Yes/No*****Whether reportable* : Yes/No**