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IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

CRM-A-220-2022
DECIDED ON: 20.08.2025

MANDEEP KUMAR

.....APPELLANT

VERSUS

HARJASPREET SINGH

.....RESPONDENT

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANDEEP MOUDGIL

Present: Mr. Vishal Gupta, Advocate
for the appellant

Mr. Manoj Kumar, Advocate for respondent

SANDEEP MOUDGIL, J (ORAL)

1. The present application has been preferred under Section 378(4) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (hereinafter 'Cr.P.C.') seeking grant of leave to appeal the judgment of acquittal dated 20.07.2021 passed by the learned Judicial Magistrate Ist Class, Chandigarh in a case filed under Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881 (hereinafter 'NI Act').

2. The Hon'ble Supreme Court in *M/s Celestium Financial vs. A. Gnanasekaran Etc., 2025(3) RCR (Criminal) 208*, after considerable discussion and comparative interpretation of Sections 372 and 378(4) of Cr.P.C., concluded that the victim has a right to file an appeal under Section 372 of Cr.P.C. before the Court of Sessions.

3. Therefore, in view of the judgment rendered by the Apex Court in *Celestium Financial (supra)*, the present application seeking leave to appeal is remanded back to the learned Sessions Judge, Chandigarh with a direction to treat

the same as filed under Section 372 of the Cr.P.C. and entrust it to appropriate Court for its disposal.

4. The Registry is directed to send the complete paper-book and the record of the case to the learned Sessions Judge, Chandigarh forthwith.
5. Disposed of accordingly.
6. Pending miscellaneous applications, if any, also stand disposed of.

20.08.2025

Meenu

(SANDEEP MOUDGIL)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No

Whether reportable : Yes/No