



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

**CRM-23604-2019 in/and  
CRM-A-1854-2019 (O&M)  
DECIDED ON: 20.08.2025**

**HARMINDER SINGH**

**.....APPELLANT(S)**

**VERSUS**

**SUNITA RANI**

**.....RESPONDENT(S)**

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANDEEP MOUDGIL**

Present: Mr. Anureet S. Sidhu, Advocate for the appellant(s).

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**SANDEEP MOUDGIL, J (ORAL)**

**CRM-23604-2019**

This application has been filed under Section 5 of the Limitation Act for condonation of delay of 569 days in filing the appeal.

For the reasons mentioned in the application and in view of the submission made by learned counsel for the applicant, the application is allowed and delay of 569 days in filing the appeal is condoned.

**CRM-A-2077-MA-2018**

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 22.08.2017 passed by the learned

JMIC, Patiala 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, Patiala 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, Patiala forthwith.

5. Disposed of accordingly.

6. Pending miscellaneous applications, if any, also stand disposed of.

20.08.2025  
*anuradha*

(SANDEEP MOUDGIL)  
JUDGE

*Whether speaking/reasoned* : *Yes/No*  
*Whether reportable* : *Yes/No*