



IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA  
AT CHANDIGARH

238

CRM-A-211-2025 (O&M)  
Date of decision: 17.09.2025

M/S SHRIRAM TRANSPORT FINANCE COMPANY LTD

...Applicant

VERSUS

BHAGAT SINGH

...Respondents

**CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VINOD S. BHARDWAJ**

Present :- Mr. G.S. Sandhu, Advocate for the applicant.  
(Through Video Conferencing).

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**VINOD S. BHARDWAJ, J. (Oral)**

The present application has been filed under Section 378(4) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (hereinafter 'CR.P.C.') seeking grant of leave to appeal against the judgment of acquittal dated 21.12.2024 passed by the learned Judicial Magistrate, 1<sup>st</sup> Class, Gurdaspur in a case stemming from criminal complaint dated 24.11.2020 filed under Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881.

2. The complaint (supra) was filed on the ground of dishonour of cheque of Rs.2,49,993/-. After assessing all the material available on the record, the learned trial Court acquitted the respondent(s) vide judgment dated 21.12.2024.

3. Learned counsel appearing on behalf of the applicant submits that in view of the judgment passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in *M/s. Celestium Financial vs. A. Gnanasekaran Etc., 2025(3) RCR (Criminal)*

**208**, the applicant would have a remedy before the Court of Sessions.

4. In view of the judgment rendered by the Apex Court in ***Celestium Financial (supra)***, the present application seeking leave to appeal is **remanded** to the learned Sessions Judge, Gurdaspur with a direction to treat the same as an appeals filed under Section 372 of the Cr.P.C. and entrust the same to appropriate Court for its disposal on merits.

5. The Registry is directed to send the complete paper-book and the record of the case to the learned Sessions Judge, Gurdaspur forthwith.

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

**17.09.2025**

*Vishal Sharma*

**(VINOD S. BHARDWAJ)**  
**JUDGE**

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