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* **IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI**

Reserved on: 03.09.2025
Date of Decision: 26.09.2025

+ **W.P.(CRL) 167/2025 & CRL.M.A.1313/2025**

HARSHEETA THAKURPetitioner

Through: Mr. Sunil K. Mittal, Mr. Anshul Mittal and Ms. Khushi Aggarwal, Advs. with Petitioner in person.

versus

THE STATE GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI AND ANR.Respondents

Through: Mr. Anand V. Khari, ASC for State with Mr. Aditya Khatri, Adv.
Counsel for R2: Appearance not given.

CORAM:
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AJAY DIGPAUL

J U D G M E N T

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1. The present writ petition has been filed seeking quashing of FIR no. 357/2024 dated 14.08.2024 registered at Police Station Pandav Nagar under Sections 498A/406/34 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860, and all proceedings emanating therefrom.

2. The petitioner is the niece of the complainant (through the complainant's husband) and has been included as one of the six persons against whom allegations have been levelled in the subject FIR.

3. It is submitted by Mr. Sunil Kumar Mittal, learned Counsel for the petitioner, that the allegations levelled in the subject FIR in terms of abuse, harassment, cruelty, and dowry demands are primarily



against the complainant's husband, his parents, and his sisters.

4. He points out that specific allegations against the present petitioner only have been levelled to the extent of her being involved in the destruction of CCTV cameras in the complainant's marital home as well as locking up of furniture therein with the intention to inconvenience the complainant.

5. Counsel for the complainant/ respondent no. 2 submits that the complainant does not object to the quashing of the present FIR *qua* the present petitioner, and that she does not wish to press the allegations levelled against the petitioner, considering that at the time of occurrence of the incidents described in the FIR, the petitioner was only around 18 years of age and was still in school, and that she too was going through the traumatic experience of losing her father.

6. The evils of dowry harassment and cruelty are a pestilence to the sanctum that is marriage. Undoubtedly, they must be dealt with in utmost seriousness. However, the attempt to rid society of these evils must be balanced with the rights of those innocents who may be roped into the dispute purely by distant association with the accused through blood.

7. The Hon'ble Supreme Court has deprecated the practice of involving distant relatives in matrimonial disputes in a catena of judgments including *Rajesh Chaddha vs. State of U.P*¹ and *Dara Lakshmi Narayana vs. State of Telangana*².

8. In light of no objections being raised on behalf of the complainant to the prayers contained in the present petition, the age and circumstances of the petitioner at the time of the incident as

¹ 2025 SCC OnLine SC 1094

² (2025) 3 SCC 735



detailed in the FIR, the lack of significant allegations levelled against her, as well as the law laid down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court, this Court deems it fit to quash FIR no. 357/2024 registered at Police Station Pandav Nagar on 14.08.2024 for offences punishable under Sections 498A/406/34 of the IPC and all proceedings emanating therefrom **only** to the extent of the involvement of the present petitioner.

9. Present applications, if any, do not survive and are disposed of accordingly.

AJAY DIGPAUL, J.

SEPTEMBER 26, 2025/AS/av