

IN THE HIGH COURT OF SINDH CIRCUIT COURT, HYDERABAD.

Criminal Appeal No.D-61 of 2021

Appellant: Azizullah Arain present on bail through Mr. Bilawal Ali Ghunio, Advocate.

Respondent: The State through Mr. Shawak Rathore, Deputy Prosecutor General Sindh.

Date of hearing: 30.08.2022.

Date of Decision: 30.08.2022.

J U D G M E N T

AMJAD ALI SAHITO, J. Through this Criminal Appeal, the appellant has challenged the judgment dated 18.05.2021, passed by learned IIIrd Additional Sessions Judge / Special Judge Control of Narcotics Substance Act, Hyderabad in Special Case No.06 of 2021, Crime No.07 of 2021 registered at PS Qasimabad, Hyderabad for the offence under section 9 (c) CNS Act, 1997, whereby the appellant was convicted and sentenced for the offence u/s 9 (c) CNS Act, 1997 for possessing 1110 grams of charas to undergo R.I. for two years and pay fine to the tune of Rs.20,000/-; in case of default to undergo S.I. for two months. However, the benefit of section 382-B Cr.P.C. was extended to the appellant.

2. Learned counsel for the appellant, at the very outset, has stated that the appellant has remained in Jail for sufficient period and still is being dragged in the instant case; as such, he does not wish to contest this Criminal Appeal and leave the appellant at the mercy of the Court. He states that if this Court while maintaining the conviction reduces the sentence to one he has already undergone, he would not press the Criminal Appeal.

3. On the other hand, learned Deputy Prosecutor General Sindh concedes that the appellant has remained behind the bars for sufficient period and learned the lesson, therefore, he has no objection if a lenient view is taken against him by dismissing the instant Criminal Appeal and treating the sentence to one as already undergone.

4. We have heard the learned counsel for the appellant, learned D.P.G. for the State and have gone through the record. The witnesses have supported each other on all salient features of the case and there appears to be no worthwhile contradictions. However, the offence pertains to the year 2021. The Jail Roll of the appellant was called from the concerned Jail, which reflects that the appellant has served out one year, seven months and thirteen days including remission. The appellant has remained in jail and learned the lesson as he has undergone sufficient period of his sentence. The punishment awarded to the appellant is two years, therefore, there is no legal impediment in accepting request of learned counsel for the appellant. Consequently, while taking leniency, instant Criminal Appeal is dismissed but with the reduction of his sentence to one as already undergone by the appellant including fine amount. Appellant is present on bail. His bail bonds stand cancelled and surety discharged. In view of the above position, the office is directed to return surety papers to the surety after proper verification and identification.

5. Instant Criminal Appeal is **dismissed** with the above modification.

JUDGE

JUDGE