

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH
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CRM-M No.4288 of 2015

Date of Decision:16.02.2015

Paras Ram

.....Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

.....Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MEHINDER SINGH SULLAR.

Present: Mr.P.S.Ahluwalia, Advocate,
for the petitioner.

Mr.Jaspreet Singh Sekhon, Assistant Advocate General,
Punjab, for the respondent-State.

MEHINDER SINGH SULLAR, J.(oral)

Petitioner-Paras Ram son of Dhanu Ram(father-in-law), claiming himself to be an old person of 85 years, has preferred the instant petition for the grant of concession of regular bail, in a case registered against him along with his son & main co-accused Kulwinder Singh (husband), daughters Sonia and Rani(sisters-in-law) and other son Jaswinder (brother-in-law) of deceased Ramandeep Kaur, vide FIR No.39 dated 20.04.2014(Annexure P-1), on accusation of having committed the offences punishable under Sections 302, 304-B and 120-B IPC, by the police of Police Station Balachaur, District Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar.

2. Notice of the petition was issued to the State.

3. Having heard the learned counsel for the parties, having gone through the record with their valuable assistance and after bestowal of thoughts over the entire matter, to my mind, the present petition for

regular bail deserves to be accepted in this context.

4. Concisely, the prosecution, *inter alia*, claimed that the marriage of Ramandeep Kaur, sister of complainant-Sandeep Kumar son of Balbir Singh(for brevity “the complainant”) was solemnized with main accused Kulwinder Singh, 1½ years prior to the present occurrence. She died unnatural death within a period of 1½ years of her marriage. It was claimed that the accused had treated her with cruelty on account of demand of dowry, soon before her death. The petitioner is old father-in-law of the deceased. It is not a matter of dispute that, during the course of investigation, Rani, elder married sister-in-law of the deceased, to whom similar allegations were assigned in the FIR, was found innocent and was exonerated by the police. All the main allegations of cruelty in connection with and on account of demand of dowry are attributed to main accused Kulwinder Singh. Moreover, main accused Kulwinder Singh was the beneficiary of the alleged demand of dowry articles. Very vague and general allegations are assigned to the present petitioner in this respect.

5. Be that as it may, the petitioner was arrested in this case on 21.04.2014. Since then he in judicial custody and no useful purpose would be served to further detain him in jail. There is no history of his previous involvement in any other criminal case. Since, not even a single witness has yet been examined by the prosecution, so, the conclusion of trial will naturally take a long time.

6. Not only that, Sonia(sister-in-law) and Jaswinder(brother-in-law), similarly situated co-accused of the petitioner, were granted the

concession of regular bail, by means of order dated 02.02.2015 in CRM-M No.1633 of 2015 by this Court. Therefore, I see no reason not to extend the same benefit of regular bail to the present petitioner as well under the similar set of circumstances.

7. In the light of aforesaid reasons, taking into consideration the old age, peculiar facts & the special circumstances, emanating from the record, as discussed here-in-above and without commenting further anything on merits, lest it may prejudice the case of either side during the course of trial of the main case, the instant petition for regular bail is hereby accepted. The petitioner is ordered to be released on bail on his furnishing adequate bail bonds and surety bonds to the satisfaction of the trial Court.

Needless to mention that, nothing observed here-in-above, would reflect, on merits in the trial of the main case, in any manner, as the same has been so recorded for a limited purpose of deciding the present petition for regular bail.

February 16, 2015
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(MEHINDER SINGH SULLAR)
JUDGE