

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

Crl. Misc.M-23022 of 2017 (O&M)

Date of Decision: August 11, 2017

Surinder Singh

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

...Respondent

CORAM:- HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE JAISHREE THAKUR

Present:- Mr. Bhoop Singh, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Abhaypal Singh Gill, AAG Punjab.

JAISHREE THAKUR, J. (Oral)

Learned counsel files the fresh power of attorney on behalf of the petitioner, superseding the earlier counsel and Mr. Varun Mittal, Advocate, puts in appearance on behalf of the complainant and files the power of attorney, which are taken on record.

2. The instant petition has been filed invoking section 438 Cr.P.C for grant of anticipatory bail to the petitioner in case FIR No. 64 dated 18.04.2017, under Sections 304-B, 498-A, 120-B of Indian Penal Code, registered at Police Station Dehlon, District Ludhiana.

3. In brief, the facts are that the aforesaid FIR was registered on the statement of Gurmail Singh that a marriage was solemnized between his daughter and Surinder Singh son of Jagtar Singh, who is working with the Punjab police on 05.12.2016, according to Sikh rites and rituals. The

daughter was ill treated and turned out of the matrimonial house, on account of demand for dowry. It was alleged that despite an effort made to re-settle the daughter, the demand for dowry and a car subsisted. A complaint dated 21.03.2017 was also filed before the Commissioner of Police, where the statement of the deceased was recorded on 15.04.2017 alleging harassment against the husband and his family members. On 18.04.2017, Manpreet Kaur was found hanging on a ceiling fan, after putting a rope around her neck.

4. Mr Bhoop Singh, learned counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioner contends that the deceased committed suicide, while in her parental home. She had left her matrimonial home in January 2017 and therefore, there was no proximity and link between the petitioner and the deceased to affect the mental equilibrium sufficient for her to have committed suicide.

5. I have heard the counsel for the petitioner and the State as well as counsel for the complainant. Counsel for the complainant places on record the statement of the deceased recorded before the police on 15.4.2017.

6. Admittedly, within a period of one and a half month of a marriage being solemnized between the petitioner and the daughter of the complainant, she was turned out of her matrimonial home. As per the complaint and statement given by the deceased on 15.4.2017 before the police, they are specific allegations of physical torture and demand for a luxurious car and dowry articles and it is soon thereafter that the death took place. The matter will have to be investigated, as to whether there was a

demand of dowry soon before her death or not, even though, she was in her parental home and for this custodial interrogation will be required. This is not the stage for grant of anticipatory bail, as prayed for. It is also noted that the petitioner herein is working in the Punjab police and would also be in a position to interfere with the investigation.

7. In view of the above, the petition in hand for grant of anticipatory bail is hereby dismissed.

August 11, 2017
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(JAISHREE THAKUR)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned
Whether reportable

Yes/No
Yes/No