

**208 IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH**

Criminal Misc. No. M- 15694 of 2017 (O&M)

Date of decision : February 28, 2018

Sukhdev Singh

....Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab and another

....Respondents

CORAM:- HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE LISA GILL

Present: Mr. Harshit Jain, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Ms. Monika Jalota, DAG, Punjab.

LISA GILL, J.

The petitioner, who is the father-in-law of the complainant, seeks the concession of anticipatory bail in FIR No. 0029 dated 12.03.2017 under Sections 498A, 354A, 120B IPC registered at Police Station Lehra, District Sangrur.

As per the allegations in the FIR, marriage of the complainant was solemnised with the petitioner's son on 15.09.2016. It is stated that the complainant's husband was mentally retarded. This fact was in the knowledge of the complainant but she solemnised marriage keeping in view the future of the son from her first marriage. Allegations attracting rigours of Section 354A IPC have been levelled against the present petitioner.

It is submitted that the petitioner has been falsely implicated, in this case, merely due to his relationship with the complainant. In fact, the complainant and her grand mother wanted

that some of the property of the petitioner be transferred in their favour. It is further submitted that final report under Section 173 Cr.P.C., in this case, has since been presented. The petitioner undertakes to face the proceedings. It is, thus, prayed that this petition be allowed.

It is noticed that this matter was placed before the Mediation and Conciliation Centre of this Court but mediation between the parties had failed.

Learned counsel for the State, on instructions from ASI Harbans Singh, verifies that the petitioner has joined investigation. Final report, in this case, has been presented. The matter is fixed before the learned trial Court for recording of prosecution evidence. Learned counsel for the State verifies that the petitioner is not involved in any other criminal case.

There are no allegations on behalf of the State that the petitioner is likely to abscond or that he is likely to dissuade the witnesses from deposing true facts in the Court, if released on bail.

Keeping in view the facts and circumstances noted above but without expressing any opinion on the merits of case, it is considered just and expedient to allow this petition. Consequently, order dated 11.05.2017 is made absolute.

February 28, 2018
rts

(Lisa Gill)
Judge

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