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IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA  
AT CHANDIGARH

SANJIV KUMAR SHARMA  
10/11/2018 16:45  
I attest to the accuracy and  
authenticity of this document

CRM-M-24733-2018 (O/M)  
Date of decision : 18.12.2018

Preeti Saluja

..... Petitioner (s)

Versus

Union Territory, Chandigarh, and another

..... Respondent (s)

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE KULDIP SINGH

Present:- Mr. Jainainder Saini, Advocate,  
for petitioner.

Mr. Sukant Gupta, Additional P.P.,  
for U.T. Chandigarh.

Mr. Sanjeev Manrai, Senior Advocate, with,  
Mr. Ajay Singh Parmar, Advocate,  
for complainant respondent No. 2.

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KULDIP SINGH, J. (ORAL)

Heard.

Affidavit of petitioner Preeti Saluja filed in Court today and same is taken on record. In affidavit, it is stated that she had worked with ICICI Bank, Sector-8, Panchkula, from 23.6.2008 to 6.10.2010. She resigned from said ICICI Bank before her marriage and thereafter, she never worked with said ICICI Bank. The marriage of petitioner with Arun Saluja took place on 20.11.2010.

As per allegations made in complaint by Smt. Krishan Lata Sharma, she was known to Arun Saluja, who was working as a Wealth Advisor in ICICI Bank. She was having dealing with said Arun Saluja for last 10-11 years and had faith in him. Said Arun Saluja advised her to invest money in some schemes, for which he got two cheques from complainant. Said Arun Saluja withdrew Rs. 6,50,000/- in the name of his

wife Preeti (present petitioner). Then, on 22.5.2017, he (Arun Saluja) withdrew another sum of Rs. 6,50,000/- in the name Amit Sharma, who is business associate of his wife Preeti (present petitioner) without permission of complainant. Later on, Rs. 55,000/- were deposited in the account of complainant, saying same is interest earned from principal amount. The complainant wanted her principal amount back. She is a senior citizen. After some days, mobile of said Arun Saluja stopped responding. On inquiry, she was told that said Arun Saluja is kidnapped/missing. His wife Preeti Saluja (present petitioner) is also missing.

The learned senior counsel for complainant respondent No. 2 and learned Additional Public Prosecutor, appearing for U.T. Chandigarh, on instructions from SI Zile Singh, have stated that there are 7 complaints and 5 FIRs registered against present petitioner. Out of 5 FIRs, 3 are registered in Chandigarh, 2 are registered in Panchkula, regarding similar allegations. The learned Additional Public Prosecutor, appearing for U.T. Chandigarh, has further alleged that total fraud is of Rs. 1,29,00,000/- which was perpetuated by said Arun Saluja with help of his family members and his wife Preeti Saluja (present petitioner). It is contended that said Arun Saluja was arrested. He remained in custody for 6 months and challan was presented in Court against him. Now, he is on bail since trial could not concluded. It is further contended on behalf of UT Chandigarh, that entire fraud is to be unearthed and petitioner is required for custodial interrogation to know her activities and fraud committed by her, manner of fraud and also recover money and material.

On the other hand, the learned counsel for petitioner contends that petitioner is wife of said Arun Saluja, who has already been arrested by police. She has been falsely involved in this case.

After going through nature of allegations, I am of view that police is required to be given free hands to inquire into fraud, allegedly committed by present petitioner and others. As such, it is not a fit case for grant of anticipatory bail. Petition for grant of anticipatory bail is dismissed.

(KULDIP SINGH)  
JUDGE

18.12.2018  
sjks

Whether speaking order : Yes / No

Whether reportable : Yes / No