

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

CRM-M-2787-2018

Date of decision:-6.9.2018

Satnam Singh @ Satta

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE H.S.MADAAN

Present: Ms.Baljit Mann, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Ms.Samina Dhir, DAG, Punjab.

Mr.G.B.S. Dhillon, Advocate
for the complainant.

H.S. MADAAN, J.

This petition for regular bail has been filed by petitioner –
Satnam Singh @ Satta– an accused in FIR No.168 dated 27.6.2017, under
Sections 384, 386, 387, 120-B IPC, Section 67/67-A of IT Act, 2000 and
Section 25/27 of Arms Act (Section 306 IPC added later on), registered
with Police Station Sidhwan Bet, District Ludhiana

Briefly stated, facts of the case as per prosecution story are

that the victim (name not being mentioned to conceal her identity and referred to as '*the victim*') daughter of Inderjeet Singh, resident of Bhumal, Police Station Sidhwan Bet, District Ludhiana was married with one Taranjit Singh, resident of Phuglana; in the year 2011 while the victim used to commute from her village to Ludhiana in connection with her studies, she came across petitioner Satnam Singh @ Satta and two of them developed friendship; that the petitioner had administered some intoxicant substance to the victim and then took her objectionable photographs, thereafter, he started blackmailing the victim threatening to show her such photographs to her family members and post the same on social media; the petitioner received considerable gold jewellery and cash amount from the victim by blackmailing her and also got her passport fraudulently; the petitioner had sent one of the objectionable photographs of the victim to her husband; when the victim asked the petitioner as to why he had done so, then he held out a threat to her that either she should pay Rs.50,000/- to him or he would make her photographs public by uploading those on social media and would show the same to her in-laws family; that on 23.6.2017 when victim was alone in her house, at about 10:30 a.m., Satnam Singh @ Satta went to her house and demanded Rs.50,000/- and forcibly snatched a gold ring threatening that if the victim did not give him Rs.50,000/- till 12:00 noon, then he would circulate the photographs on social media; that the victim informed her grandfather, who went to the house of accused Satnam Singh @ Satta, where his father Daljit Singh met him, who stated that his son would keep doing so; that on account of such act and conduct on the part of Satnam Singh @ Satta, the victim

consumed a poisonous substance. Her statement was recorded while she was undergoing treatment at Civil Hospital, Ludhiana. She expired and then offence under Section 306 IPC was added in the FIR. The petitioner/accused was arrested in this case. He had filed an application for regular bail in the Court of Sessions, which was declined by learned Additional Sessions Judge, Ludhiana vide order dated 8.12.2017, as such, he has approached this Court with same request.

Notice of the petition was given to respondent – State and counsel representing the State has put in appearance. The complainant has also appeared through counsel.

I have heard learned counsel for the parties besides going through the record.

The allegations against the petitioner are very grave and serious taking obscene photographs of the victim in the garb of friendship and then blackmailing her extorting considerable money and gold jewellery articles from her under threat and showing her such obscene photographs to her in-laws family and making those public by uploading the same on social media and on account of that the victim was forced to commit suicide by consuming poisonous substance. A CD is there in which the deceased had disclosed the entire story, which can certainly be taken as her dying declaration. She had got her statement recorded with the police also squarely blaming the petitioner for her death. The challan against the petitioner has since been filed and the trial is going on. His guilt shall be determined during the trial. Along with the gravity and seriousness of allegations against the petitioner, there is apprehension of

his trying to tamper with the prosecution evidence and even to abscond, if granted bail. The trial against the petitioner is likely to be concluded in near future.

Therefore, finding no merit in the petition, the same stands dismissed.

6.9.2018

Brij

(H.S.MADAAN)

JUDGE

Whether reasoned/speaking : Yes/No

Whether reportable : Yes/No