

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT
CHANDIGARH

CRM-M-37912-2018 (O/M)

Date of decision : 24.9.2018

Surjit Singh

..... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

..... Respondent

CORAM:- HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE KULDIP SINGH

Present:- Mr. Puneet Bali, Senior Advocate, with,
Mr. Vaibhav Jain, Advocate,
for petitioner.
Ms. Simranjeet Kaur, AAG Punjab.
Mr. P.S. Ahluwalia, Advocate, for,
Mr. Anandeshwar Gautam, Advocate,
for complainant.

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KULDIP SINGH, J.

This order will dispose of second bail application filed by petitioner Surjit Singh under Section 439 Cr.P.C., for grant of regular bail in FIR NO. 0001, dated 3.1.2018, under Sections 306, 120-B IPC (subsequently Sections 384, 506 IPC were added), registered at Police Station Airport, Amritsar.

Inderpreet Singh Chadha, father of complainant committed suicide on 3.1.2018 with his own licenced revolver. The case was registered on the statement of Prabhpreet Singh Chadha (complainant) son of Inderpreet Singh Chadha, who named Surjit Singh, Harjit Singh, Kuljeet Kaur alias K. Ghuman, Mania, Devinder Sandhu of WWICS, Inderpreet Singh Anand alias Sizee, Gursewak Singh, Hari Singh Sandhu, Bhag Singh Ankhi, Nirmal Singh, Ravinder Kaur wife of Varandeep Singh and other persons, stating that they had created such circumstances, which compelled Inderpreet Singh Chadha to commit suicide. Present petitioner was arrested

on 27.2.2018. His first bail application (CRM-M-15440-2018) was dismissed by this Court on 29.5.2018 (Annexure-P-5).

The learned senior counsel for petitioner contends that now report of FSL has been received and that supplementary challan dated 27.7.2018 has also been presented in Court and the case is now fixed for framing of charges. The petitioner is in custody for last little less than 7 months and that no purpose would be served by further detention of petitioner.

I have heard learned senior counsel for petitioner, learned State counsel, learned counsel for complainant and have also carefully gone through file.

Inderpreet Singh Chadha committed suicide on 3.1.2018 with his own licenced revolver after sending his driver Raj Kumar alias Raju to check the parked vehicle. It has come during investigation that deceased left behind as many as 9 suicide notes, written between 10.4.2016 to 2018. While the first, second and third suicide notes are dated 10.4.2016, 29.5.2016, 2.6.2016, the remaining suicide notes are undated. In the suicide notes, the allegations have been leveled against several persons. In the one suicide note, 12 persons have been named, in another suicide note, 8 persons have been named and in the third suicide note, 10 persons have been named. It is stated that even in one the suicide notes, one ADGP has been named and even in one of the suicide notes, the Chairman of NRI Commission has been named, showing that deceased was aggrieved from several persons. It also comes out from suicide note that deceased had some business dealings with Surjit Singh and Ummat. He blamed Surjit Singh, Kuljit Kaur alias K. Ghuman, Devinder Sandhu and Mania had embezzled crores of his rupees and harassed him, forged the cheques and

documents. It also comes out that deceased had not filed any civil suit or criminal complaint against any of persons named in suicide notes. The repeated suicide notes for last little less than 2 years give some indication about state of mind of deceased, which need not be discussed here. It is also not denied that father of deceased was head of Chief Khalsa Diwan and that recently one lady had levelled allegations of sexual harassment against his father and that a video was also widely circulated with the result that father of petitioner had to resign from his post. It had happened a few days before suicide. In this case, Vijay Kmar Umat, Harjit Singh Chadha, Inderpreet Singh Anand, Kuljit Kaur alias K. Ghuman, Devinder Sandhu of WWICS and Ravinder Kaur have already been granted bail. The evidence is yet to be led before the trial Court and it is yet to be determined whether it is the petitioner, who created such circumstances that deceased Inderpreet Singh Chadha was compelled to commit suicide or there were other circumstances due to which Inderpreet Singh Chadha was depressed. The effect of repeated suicide notes for last little less than 2 years is also to be examined. The petitioner is in custody for last little less than 7 months. The conclusion of trial will take time. Therefore, there is no justification of further detention of petitioner, particularly when other accused, who are similarly situated, have been enlarged on bail.

The learned counsel for complainant has vehemently opposed the bail application and has stated that it will amount to review of earlier order. He has also referred to various authorities, stating that in such circumstances, abetment of suicide is made out. He has further relied upon authority of this Court in *Dalip Singh alias Deepa Versus State of Punjab*, 2010 (2) RCR (Criminal) 566.

I am of the view that keeping in view the fact that petitioner is

in custody for last little less than 7 months and similarly situated accused have been enlarged on bail and also considering that conclusion of trial will take time, there is no justification of further detention of petitioner. Accordingly, application is allowed. The petitioner is ordered to be released on personal bond in the sum of Rs. 50,000/-, with one surety of the like amount, to the satisfaction of learned Chief Judicial Magistrate/Duty Magistrate, Amritsar, subject to following conditions :-

1. That petitioner shall not directly or indirectly give any inducement, threat, promise to any of the witness acquainted with facts of case ;
2. That petitioner shall not leave the country without prior permission of Court ; and
3. That petitioner shall attend the Court proceedings on each and every date of hearing.

(KULDIP SINGH)
JUDGE

24.9.2018
sjks

Whether speaking/reasoned order : Yes

Whether reportable : No