

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

CRM-M-4248 of 2019.

Decided on:- September 25, 2019.

Manju.

.....Petitioner.

Versus

State of Haryana.

.....Respondent.

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HARI PAL VERMA.

Present:- Mr. Gopal Sharma, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Ms. Gaganpreet Kaur, A.A.G., Haryana.

Mr. Parveen Sharma, Advocate
for the complainant.

HARI PAL VERMA, J. (Oral)

The petitioner has filed the present petition under Section 438 Cr.P.C. seeking anticipatory bail in the event of his arrest in FIR No.627 dated 04.11.2018 under Section 304-B read with Section 34 IPC registered at Police Station Sadar Sonapat.

The aforesaid FIR was registered against the petitioner and other accused at the behest of Ravi Dutt father of deceased Puja, whose marriage was solemnised with David @ Manish on 05.02.2015. As per the FIR, after 4 months of the marriage, husband of the deceased demanded motorcycle, whereas her parents- in- law demanded Rs.5 lakh. She was given beating and sometime given injuries for which she had taken medical treatment from civil hospital and her medical examination was conducted. On

06.12.2017, a complaint was made by deceased Puja to the police, but the matter was compromised. Thereafter, again some quarrel took place and demand of dowry was raised.

It was further alleged by the complainant that on 04.11.2018, all the accused i.e. David @ Manish (husband), Lekhraj (father-in-law), petitioner Manju (mother-in-law) and Megha and Parul (sisters-in-law) of Puja had killed his daughter Puja and hanged her with a fan.

Learned counsel for the petitioner has argued that during the course of investigation, sister-in-law Megha and Parul were found innocent and accused David @ Manish and Lekh Raj are in custody since November, 2018. The petitioner is mother-in-law of Puja (deceased), who had died leaving behind 2 years old daughter and the petitioner is taking care of the child.

He has further argued that after the matter having been compromised between the parties, there is no allegation of demand of money against the petitioner. Moreover, the complainant has roped the whole family including the sisters-in-law Megha and Parul, who were found innocent, which shows the object of the complainant to involve the whole family.

Learned counsel for the complainant has argued that deceased Puja was got married with David @ Manish on 05.02.2015 and there were allegations of demand of Rs.5 lakh from her. He has argued that the deceased had not committed suicide, rather, she was strangled.

Learned State counsel, on instructions from SI Rohtash has submitted that pursuant to the order dated 19.03.2019 passed by this Court,

the petitioner has joined investigation and her custodial interrogation is not required at this stage.

I have heard learned counsel for the parties.

Record reveals that earlier also, deceased Puja had made a complaint on 06.12.2016 making similar allegations and the matter was compromised. In the present FIR, allegation against the accused including the petitioner is that she had demanded Rs.5 lakh from the complainant. The husband and father-in-law of the deceased are already in custody. The petitioner has joined the investigation and her custodial interrogation is not required. Moreover, she is required to take care of the two years old daughter of the deceased. Therefore, this Court finds that the petitioner deserves to be admitted on anticipatory bail.

Accordingly, the present petition is allowed and the interim bail granted to the petitioner vide order dated 19.03.2019 is made absolute.

However, if required, the petitioner shall continue to join investigation as and when required to do so and shall abide by the terms and conditions, as laid down under Section 438(2) Cr.P.C.

September 25, 2019
Yag Dutt

(HARI PAL VERMA)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned: Yes

Whether Reportable: No