

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

**CRM M-18658 of 2020 (O&M)**

**Date of Decision: July 15, 2020**

Harsh Mann .....Petitioner  
Versus  
State of Punjab and another .... Respondents

**CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE FATEH DEEP SINGH**

Present : Mr. P.S. Ahluwalia, Advocate  
for the petitioner.

Mr. Amit Mehta, Sr. DAG, Punjab.

Mr. Kuldeep Saini, Advocate  
for the complainant.

**FATEH DEEP SINGH, J. (Oral)**

The matter has been taken up through video-conferencing on account of lockdown due to outbreak of pandemic COVID-19.

Mr. Amit Mehta, Sr. DAG, Punjab puts in appearance on behalf of the State on his own.

Petitioner Harsh Mann who is accused in case bearing FIR No. 268 dated 20.06.2020 under Section 498-A of Indian Penal Code registered at Police Station Zirakpur, District

SAS Nagar has come up in this first anticipatory bail application under Section 438 Cr.P.C.

The present case was got registered on the complaint of Lubhavana Kumari wife of the petitioner alleging that her marriage with the petitioner was solemnized on 09.05.2016 but on account of ill treatment on dowry, the present case was got registered.

Learned counsel for the petitioner *inter alia* contends that the accused has only been charged for the commission of offence under Section 498-A and nothing is to be recovered from him.

Mr. Amit Mehta, Sr. DAG, Punjab learned State counsel has not differed over the same but has opposed the grant of bail on account of allegations levelled against the petitioner/husband.

Admittedly, it is matrimonial dispute between the couple and that offence being under Section 498-A IPC, nothing is to be recovered and his joining the investigation would suffice the purpose. Accordingly, the petitioner is directed to appear before the investigating officer within a period of 15 days from the date of receipt of certified copy of this order and on his doing so, he shall be released on bail to the satisfaction of the arresting/investing officer till submission of report under Section

173 Cr.P.C. (challan). The petitioner shall continue join investigation and shall furnish an undertaking that he shall abide by the conditions specified under Section 438(2) Cr.P.C. Thereafter, he will be permitted to furnish regular bail bonds to the satisfaction of the trial Court.

The petition stands disposed off, accordingly.

However, the complainant side as well as accused are directed to appear before the Mediation and Conciliation Centre of this Court in due course.

**July 15, 2020**  
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**(FATEH DEEP SINGH)**  
**JUDGE**

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