

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

201

CRM-M-55238-2019

Date of decision : 17.06.2020.

Baljinder Singh @ Raju

... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

.. Respondent

CORAM :HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ANUPINDER SINGH GREWAL

Present:- Mr. Jasvir Singh Dhaliwal, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Dhruv Dayal, Senior DAG, Punjab.

Mr. Madan Sandhu, Advocate for the complainant.

Anupinder Singh Grewal, J. (Oral)

The petitioner is seeking regular bail in FIR No.0072 dated 08.06.2019, under Section 304-B IPC, registered at Police Station Jhunir, District Mansa.

Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that the allegations in the FIR are that the wife of the petitioner had allegedly committed suicide by hanging herself. He also contends that the petitioner is in custody for over a year and the mother of the petitioner, who was also an accused, had expired while in custody. The petitioner has a eight years old daughter from his first marriage to look after, who is residing with the father of the petitioner, who has been released on bail.

Learned State counsel contends that as per his instructions, challan has been filed in this case.

Learned counsel for the complainant, however, contends that the prosecution evidence has been partly recorded. The examination in-chief of the complainant was completed in March, 2020 and now the case is listed for cross-examination of the complainant on 13.07.2020. He also contends that in case the petitioner is released on bail, he might try to influence the witnesses.

Heard through video conferencing.

In view of the submissions of the learned counsel for the petitioner, especially when the petitioner is in custody for over a year; his mother had expired while in custody; he has a eight years old daughter to look after; the COVID-19 pandemic and the conclusion of the trial is likely to take some time, I deem it a fit case to grant the concession of regular bail to the petitioner.

Therefore, without expressing any opinion on the merits of the case, the instant petition is allowed. The petitioner is ordered to be released on regular bail on his furnishing requisite bonds to the satisfaction of the trial Court/Duty Magistrate concerned.

However, it is clarified that the petitioner shall not contact or try to influence the witnesses in any manner. In the event of the petitioner doing so, it shall be open to the State or the complainant to move an application in this regard.

(ANUPINDER SINGH GREWAL)
JUDGE

June 17, 2020
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Whether speaking/reasoned	:	Yes/No
Whether Reportable	:	Yes/No