

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

**CRM-M-32517-2021
Date of decision: 12.08.2021**

Iqbal Singh**...Petitioner**

Versus

State of Punjab**...Respondent****CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARVIND SINGH SANGWAN**

Present:- Mr. Vijay Rana, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Joginder Pal Ratra, DAG, Punjab.

ARVIND SINGH SANGWAN, J. (Oral)

The petitioner prays for grant of anticipatory bail in FIR No. 167 dated 28.07.2021, registered under Section 306 IPC at Police Station Model Town, Ludhiana.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that as per allegations in the FIR, registered at the instance of complainant Joga Singh, it is stated that his son Satnam Singh was acquainted with Ramanjot Kaur (daughter of co-accused Ranjit Singh) prior to the time when both of them performed marriage in the month of February, 2021. After marriage, Ramanjot Kaur started putting pressure on Satnam Singh to live separately from other family members and also to take share in the property and transfer the same in her name. It is further stated that since his son was not agreeing, he was threatened that if he failed to do so, he will be done to death.

Learned counsel further submits that in fact the petitioner, who is aged about 63 years and retired from the post of Manager, UCO Bank, is

a distant relative and had no role in the matrimonial life of deceased Satnam Singh and Ramanjot Kaur.

It is further submitted that though the petitioner is named in a video clip, which the deceased had allegedly prepared prior to committing suicide by consuming some intoxicant substance, wherein it is stated that the petitioner along with others was putting pressure on him in the Panchayat to stay separately from his family, however, the same is not substantiated by any other evidence.

Learned counsel further submits that the primary allegations are against co-accused Ramanjot Kaur, with whom, the deceased had performed marriage against the wishes of his family.

In reply, learned State counsel submits that in a video, recorded by the deceased prior to committing suicide, he has given the name of the petitioner as a person who has extended threat to him. However, it is not disputed that petitioner was not directly related to the family matters of deceased Satnam Singh and Ramanjot Kaur as the petitioner is stated to be an uncle of Ramanjot Kaur.

Learned State counsel further submits that co-accused Ramanjot Kaur, against whom there are direct allegations, has been arrested.

After hearing learned counsel for the parties, without expressing any opinion on the merits of the case, considering all the facts and circumstances and in view of the fact that petitioner is aged about 63 years and is residing separately with his own family and also in view of the fact that there is no evidence to show that prior to committing suicide by Satnam Singh, the petitioner has ever interfered in the matrimonial affairs of Satnam Singh and Ramanjot Kaur, I deem it appropriate to grant concession

of anticipatory bail to petitioner.

Accordingly, the present petition is allowed. The petitioner is granted concession of anticipatory bail, subject to conditions envisaged under Section 438(2) Cr.P.C.

However, it will be open for the Investigating Officer to call upon the petitioner to join investigation, if so required, by issuing him a written notice in this regard.

12.08.2021

Waseem Ansari

(ARVIND SINGH SANGWAN)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned

Yes/No

Whether reportable

Yes/No