

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

CRM-M-44387 of 2021

Date of decision 25.10.2021

Anju Bala

Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AVNEESH JHINGAN

Present: Mr. Rajesh Nain, Advocate for the petitioner.
Ms. Monika Jalota, DAG, Punjab.

AVNEESH JHINGAN, J (Oral):

Due to COVID-19 situation, the Court is convened through video conference.

This petition under Section 438 Cr.P.C. is filed seeking anticipatory bail in FIR No. 334, dated 24.08.2021, under Sections 406, 420 and 120-B IPC, registered at Police Station Patran, District Patiala.

A complaint was filed by Pawan Kumar stating that Rajni Kaur alias Anju (petitioner) wife of Ramesh Kumar, Ramesh Kumar, Gurmangat Singh, Pardeep Singh alias Babbu, Satpal and Jagdeep Singh are running a gang. They get payment from the youth on the pretext of getting them recruited in Indian Army. The complainant handed over a sum of Rs.2,70,000/- to the accused in the presence of Balwinder Singh. Original testimonials and documents were also handed over. In November, 2019 the accused handed appointment letter (photo copy was attached with the complaint) for recruitment in Indian Army. The letter was for joining on 25.2.2020 in 151 Infantry Bn (TA) Sikh, Mahar Ground of 9 Bihasw Nimkum (KHOJATOLI) Ranchi (Jharkhand). Later, it transpired that the

appointment letter was fake. On contacting the accused for return of money, the complainant was threatened.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the petitioner was named only to create a pressure as she is wife of Ramesh Kumar. The petitioner is not aware of any incident where money was taken for getting the complainant recruited in Indian Army. It is argued that the petitioner is not involved in any other case.

Learned counsel for the State appearing on advance notice vehemently opposes the prayer for grant of anticipatory bail. She submits that the petitioner is specifically named in the FIR. It is not a case where only an assurance of recruitment in Indian Army was given but forged appointment letters were prepared. She contends that it is not a sole case, four more similarly situated persons as complainant were duped and given forged appointment letters. The submission is that during enquiry, it surfaced that one of the cheque given as guarantee was issued from the bank account of the petitioner. She further submits that the petitioner's name is Rajni Kaur @ Anju Bala. It is a case where custodial interrogation is necessary to un-earth the *modus operandi* adopted by the accused.

There are serious allegations made by the complainant. Youth were being duped by the accused on pretext of recruitment in Indian Army. Forged appointment letters were prepared and handed over to the prospective candidates. As per the submission of learned counsel for the State, the cheque was issued from the bank account of the petitioner as guarantee of the amount accepted by the accused. Considering the facts and circumstances in totality, it is a case where deeper probe is required. The

promised appointments by the accused are of Indian Army and forged appointment letters have been prepared in the said process. In the FIR, petitioner is specifically named as Rajni Kaur @ Anju Bala wife of Ramesh Kumar.

No ground is made out for anticipatory bail.

The petition is dismissed.

[AVNEESH JHINGAN]
JUDGE

25th October, 2021
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| 1. Whether speaking/ reasoned | : | Yes /No |
| 2. Whether reportable | : | Yes /No |