

**205/4 IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH**

CRM-M-36627-2022 (O&M)

Date of Decision: 14.11.2022

SHILPA SEKHRI

... PETITIONER

V/S

STATE OF PUNJAB

... RESPONDENT

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VIVEK PURI

Present: Mr. Bharat Puri, Advocate for the petitioner.
Ms. Ruchika Sabherwal, DAG Punjab.
Mr. S.S.Chatrath, Advocate for the complainant.

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VIVEK PURI, J. (ORAL)

On 22.08.2022 following order was passed:

“The petitioner is seeking anticipatory bail in the case bearing FIR No. 0047 dated 18.05.2022 under Sections 498-A, 324 and 506 IPC (Sections 406 and 120-B added later on) registered at Police Station Division No. 1, District Pathankot (Annexure P-1).

Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that the petitioner is sister-in-law of the complainant. At the earlier instance, inquiry was conducted qua the petitioner and she was found to be innocent. Furthermore, brother of the petitioner i.e. husband of the complainant has been granted pre-arrest bail and even the matter has been referred to mediation, which is still pending.

Notice of motion.

Mr. Harpreet Singh, Addl. AG Punjab appears and accepts instructions.

Meanwhile, the petitioner shall join the investigation and would come present as and when called for and in the event of arrest, petitioner shall be admitted to interim bail on his furnishing personal and surety bonds to the satisfaction Arresting/Investigating Officer. The petitioner shall also abide by the conditions as specified under Section 438 (2) Cr.P.C.

To be heard along with CRM-M-27493-2022 on 14.11.2022.”

Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that the marriage of

Deepak Khosla was solemnized with the complainant on 20.01.2017 and a

son has been born from the wedlock. The petitioner is the sister-in-law of the complainant. The FIR has been registered on the basis of the false and vague allegations. Furthermore, in pursuance of the interim directions, the petitioner has joined the investigation and she is not in possession of any articles of *istridhan*.

Learned State counsel has submitted that the petitioner has joined the investigation and her custodial interrogation is not required.

Learned counsel for the complainant has opposed the bail application on the score that 60 Tolas of golden jewellery is yet to be recovered.

On a query, learned State counsel submits that the bills to the tune of about Rs. 2.5 Lakhs pertaining to the golden jewellery have only been submitted.

The controversy as to whether the petitioner has misappropriated the articles of *Istridhan* will be a debatable and moot point during the course of trial. The petitioner has joined the investigation in pursuance of the interim directions issued by this Court and her custodial interrogation is not required.

Considering above, the petition is allowed and the interim bail granted by this Court vide order dated 22.08.2022 is made absolute.

The petition stands allowed.

14.11.2022

Janki

(VIVEK PURI)
JUDGE

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