

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

228

**CRM-M-38271 of 2022
Date of decision : 31.08.2022**

Sonu Kumar

.....Petitioner

VERSUS

State of Punjab

.....Respondent

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VIVEK PURI

Present:- Mr. J. S. Dhaliwal, Advocate, for the petitioner.

Mr. Harpreet Singh, Addl. A. G. Punjab.

VIVEK PURI, J. (Oral)

Petitioner has prayed for grant of regular bail in case FIR No.186 dated 30.11.2021 under Sections 304-B, 34 IPC 1860, registered at Police Station City-1, Mansa, Punjab.

Custody certificate of the petitioner dated 30.08.2022 has been filed by learned State counsel in Court today. The same is taken on record.

Briefly, as per allegation in the FIR, the marriage of Rishu Gupta-deceased was solemnized with petitioner-Sonu Kumar on 24.05.2021. As per allegations, a demand of Rs. 2 Lakhs was raised and maltreatment was meted out to the deceased on that score. The deceased had committed suicide and her dead body has been recovered from canal.

Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that FIR has been registered on the basis of the statement of Harish Kumar, the brother of the deceased. During the course of trial, he stepped into the witness box as PW-1 and has not supported the prosecution version. Bhoj Raj Goyal-PW-2 is the uncle of the deceased and even, he has not supported the prosecution version. It is emerging in the statement of the complainant

that has been recorded during the course of trial that the deceased was living happily in her in-laws family and she was never harassed on account of bringing insufficient dowry. The parents and brother of the petitioner who were also arraigned as accused have been released on bail.

Learned State counsel has not disputed the aforesaid factual assertions as put forth on behalf of the petitioner.

Custody certificate indicates that petitioner is in custody for a period of 9 months and 1 day. The custody certificate indicates with regard to another case under Sections 323, 324, 427 read with Section 34 IPC but he is on bail in that case. Complainant i.e., brother of the deceased and her uncle have not supported the prosecution version. Out of 24 prosecution witnesses only 2 witnesses have been examined. The conclusion of trial is likely to take time and no fruitful purpose would be served by further detaining the petitioner in custody. Therefore, without making any expression of opinion on the merits of the case, it is ordered that the petitioner be released on regular bail subject to his furnishing requisite bail bonds/surety bonds to the satisfaction of the concerned trial Court/Chief Judicial Magistrate/Duty Magistrate.

The petition is allowed.

(VIVEK PURI)
JUDGE

31.08.2022
anil

<i>Whether speaking/reasoned :</i>	<i>Yes/No</i>
<i>Whether reportable</i>	<i>Yes/No</i>