

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

(Heard through VC)

CRM-M-331 of 2020 (O&M)
Date of Decision: March 07, 2022

Ashwani Kumar Mehta

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

...Respondent

CORAM:- HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE JAISHREE THAKUR

Present:- Mr. D.S. Virk, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. R.B.S. Mann, DAG Punjab.

Mr. V.S. Rana, Advocate
for respondent No.2.

JAISHREE THAKUR, J. (Oral)

The instant petition has been filed under Section 438 of Cr.P.C., for grant of anticipatory bail to the petitioner in the event of arrest in FIR No.91 dated 13.11.2019, under Sections 406, 498-A, 354 of the Indian Penal Code, registered at Police Station Women, Patiala.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the allegations qua sexual harassment are vague, being without any dates and details given therein. In fact, the petitioner disinherited his son and the complainant as far back as 09.12.2017. Counsel for the petitioner would further submit that the petitioner has joined the investigation in terms of order dated 09.01.2020.

On the other hand, learned State counsel, on instructions from ASI Baljinder Singh, would submit that the petitioner has joined the investigation and he has been found to be innocent and kept in column No.2 in the challan, which stood presented.

Per contra, learned counsel for the complainant opposes the confirmation of the anticipatory bail, while contending that no ground is made out to confirm the bail.

In view of the fact that the matter stands investigated and challan presented, leaving the petitioner herein in column No.2, at this stage, without commenting on the merits of the case, the petition is allowed and order dated 09.01.2020 granting interim bail to the petitioner is made absolute subject to the conditions laid down in Section 438 Sub Section 2 Clauses (i)(ii) and (iii) of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

March 07, 2022
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(JAISHREE THAKUR)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned
Whether reportable

Yes
Yes/No