

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT
CHANDIGARH

Sr. No.213

CRM-M-28986-2022

Date of Decision: 30.01.2023

Gurmeet Kaur

.... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

... Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE TRIBHUVAN DAHIYAPresent: Mr. P.S.Ahluwalia, Advocate
for the petitioner.

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

TRIBHUVAN DAHIYA, J. (ORAL)

This is a petition under Section 439 Cr.P.C. seeking grant of regular bail in case FIR No.152 dated 29.11.2021, registered under Sections 304-B and 34 IPC at Police Station Shambu, District Patiala.

As per the FIR, the petitioner, who is step mother-in-law/*massi saas* of the deceased Sonia Devi, is alleged to have taunted the latter a month after her marriage, for bringing less dowry. The marriage was solemnized on 27.06.2021.

Learned counsel for the petitioner argues that there is no specific attribution to the petitioner. Vague and omnibus allegations have been levelled against all the accused. The alleged offences are not even *prima facie* made out against the petitioner. Besides, trial of the case is not progressing despite charges having been framed on 16.09.2022. On the last two dates, i.e., 01.11.2022 and 22.12.2022, none of the prosecution witnesses was present. The petitioner is in custody since 30.11.2021.

Learned State counsel, upon instructions from SI Sham Lal, opposes the grant of bail and states that trial of the case has already commenced. He is, however, not in a position to dispute the submissions made by the learned counsel for the petitioner.

In this background, keeping in view the fact that investigation of the case is over and trial of the case is not likely to conclude in near future, no purpose would be served by confining the petitioner in custody during trial.

In view thereof, the petitioner is ordered to be released on bail subject to furnishing of adequate bail/surety bonds to the satisfaction of the trial Court/Duty Magistrate concerned.

Petition stands allowed.

(TRIBHUVAN DAHIYA)
JUDGE

30.01.2023
Maninder

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