

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

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**CRM-M No. 31893 of 2022
Date of Decision : 13.3.2023**

Manpreet Singh alias Mannu

..... Petitioner

versus

State of Punjab

..... Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE TRIBHUVAN DAHIYA

Present: Mr. I.S. Saggu, Advocate, for the petitioner
Mr. Kunal Vinayak, AAG, Punjab

TRIBHUVAN DAHIYA J. (ORAL):

This is a petition under Section 439 Cr.P.C. seeking regular bail to the petitioner in case FIR No.66 dated 8.4.2022 under Sections 305, 201, 354-C IPC registered at Police Station City Rajpura, District Patiala.

As per allegations in the FIR, the complainant's daughter, aged about 17 years, committed suicide by consuming sulphas, and named co-accused Lucky, alleging that the latter had made her life hell. He used to harass her by saying that he would viral her photographs. On being fed up, she was constrained to consume sulphas.

Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that the petitioner was not named in the FIR. It is only in the complainant's supplementary statement recorded after about two and a half months, that the allegations against the petitioner were levelled for the first time, leading to his arrest on 28.6.2022. The same are, therefore, not believable. Investigation of the case is already over, and the challan stands presented before the trial Court.

Learned State counsel, on instructions from Inspector Vikas

Bhatia, submits that during investigation the complainant presented a

photograph of the petitioner with deceased, that was found in the latter’s mobile phone. It connects him to the alleged offences. He further submits that charges in the case have already been framed on 14.2.2023 and the trial will soon commence. Therefore, the petitioner should not be released on bail.

Culpability of the petitioner is a matter of trial, which is yet to commence and will take a long time to conclude. Taking this into account, and looking at the nature of the allegations against the petitioner as well as the material brought on record, it is deemed appropriate to grant the concession of bail to the petitioner.

Accordingly, the petition is allowed. The petitioner is ordered to be released on bail on furnishing bail bonds and surety bonds to the satisfaction of the trial Court/Duty Magistrate.

(TRIBHUVAN DAHIYA)
JUDGE

13.3.2023
Ashwani

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