

2023:PHHC:162249

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

**Date of Decision: 18.12.2023
CRM-M-40150-2023**

MUNNI DEVI ... PETITIONER
VS.
STATE OF PUNJAB .. RESPONDENT

CRM-M-44169-2023

SOHAN LAL ... PETITIONER
VS.
STATE OF PUNJAB .. RESPONDENT

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VIVEK PURI

Present : Mr. S.P.S.Tinna, Advocate, for the petitioners.
Ms. Ruchika Sabherwal, DAG, Punjab.
Mr. Ashok Kumar Sama, Advocate, for the complainant.

VIVEK PURI, J.(ORAL)

1. The petitioners are seeking regular bail in the case bearing FIR No.0024 dated 25.04.2023 under Sections 304-B/498-A/201 IPC registered at Police Station Khuhli Khera, District Fazilka.
2. Custody certificates have been placed on record.
3. Learned counsel for the petitioners contend that the petitioners are mother-in-law and father-in-law of the deceased. The marriage of the son of the petitioners was solemnized with deceased on 05.11.2022. There are general and vague allegations with regard to demand of dowry. The death has occurred on account of hanging on 25.04.2023. The FIR has been registered on the basis of statement of brother of the deceased. The brother, mother and father of the deceased during the course of trial have not supported the prosecution version. As per their deposition, the deceased was under depression and had been consuming some medicines. She had committed suicide on account of depression. The witnesses have further

deposed that no one is responsible for the death of the deceased. The petitioners are in custody for a period of 07 months and 23 days and not involved in any other case.

4. Learned State counsel has not disputed the fact that the brother, father and mother of the deceased have not supported the prosecution version but submits that out of 16, 10 witnesses have been examined. It has been further submitted that although, the suicide note was recovered but no forensic opinion has been procured as standard writing of the deceased has not been made available to the Investigating Agency.

5. The petitioners are mother-in-law and father-in-law of the deceased. During the course of trial, the brother, father and mother of the deceased have not supported the prosecution version. It is emerging in the deposition that the deceased was under depression and no one was responsible for her death. Even the forensic report could not be procured with regard to suicide note for want of standard writing of the deceased. The petitioners are in custody for a period of 07 months and 23 days and not involved in any other case.

6. In such circumstances, sufficient grounds are made out to extend the concession of bail to the petitioners. Accordingly, without making any observation on the merits of the case, both the petitions are allowed and petitioners are ordered to be released on bail, subject to their furnishing bail/surety bonds to the satisfaction of concerned trial Court/Chief Judicial Magistrate/Duty Magistrate.

18.12.2023
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(VIVEK PURI)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No
Whether Reportable : Yes/No