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IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH

Date of Decision: 18.10.2023

CRM-M No.50713 of 2022 (O&M)

Surjeet Kaur @ Surjit Kaur

..... Petitioner

V/s.

State of Punjab

.....Respondent

CRM-M No.51713 of 2022 (O&M)

Ranjit Kaur

..... Petitioner

V/s.

State of Punjab

.....Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VIVEK PURI

Present: Mr. Vishal Munjal , Advocate
for the petitioner(s).

Ms. Ruchika Sabherwal, DAG, Punjab.

Mr. Arihant Goyal, Advocate for respondent No.2.

Vivek Puri, J. (Oral)

1. On 13.07.2023, the following order was passed:

“1. The petitioners are seeking anticipatory bail in the case bearing FIR No.0148 dated 13.10.2022 under Sections 306 and 34 IPC registered at Police Station Dhanaula, District Barnala.

2. Learned counsel for the petitioners submit that Surjeet Kaur @ Surjit Kaur is the mother-in-law and Ranjit Kaur is the married sister-in-law of the deceased. The deceased had been staying in her parental house for a period of 06 months prior to the occurrence. The marriage of the deceased was solemnized with

Kulwant Jangra about 15 years prior to the occurrence. There is nothing to indicate that any complaint was submitted at any forum by the deceased or any member of her parental family members prior to the period she left the matrimonial house. Even the suicide note has not specifically named Ranjit Kaur, the sister-in-law. In fact, Ranjit Kaur is having three other sisters. Ranjit Kaur is residing in her matrimonial house for a period of about 33 years. There is lack of material to indicate that there was any instigation on the part of the petitioner in close proximity with the time of occurrence which could have prompted the deceased to commit suicide. Even 14 years old child of the deceased is under the care and custody of Surjeet Kaur @ Surjit Kaur, who is stated to be 79 years old. The Investigation qua Kulwant Jangra, the husband of the deceased, is over and challan qua him has been presented in the Court.

3. *At the earlier instance, the directions were issued that no coercive action initiated against the petitioner(s).*

4. *Learned State counsel submits that the petitioners are yet to join investigation.*

5. *Learned counsel for the complainant submits that the deceased had submitted a complaint to SSP, Barnala two days prior to the occurrence and she had committed suicide by hanging on the abetment of the petitioners.*

6. *Adjourned to 18.10.2023.*

7 *In the meanwhile, the petitioners are directed to join investigation and in the event of their arrest, they shall be released on interim bail to the satisfaction of the Investigating Officer/Arresting Officer subject to the conditions as envisaged under Section 438 (2) of Code of Criminal Procedure.”*

2. Learned counsel for the petitioners contend that in pursuance of the interim directions, the petitioners have joined the investigation.

3. Learned State counsel on instructions from ASI-Jasbir Singh submits that the petitioners have joined the investigation and their custodial interrogation is not required.

4. Keeping in view the entire circumstances, sufficient grounds are made out to extend the concession of pre-arrest bail to the petitioners. Accordingly, order dated 13.07.2023 vide which the petitioners have been granted interim bail is made absolute.

5. Both the petitions are allowed.

18th October, 2023
Sonia Puri

(VIVEK PURI)
JUDGE

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