

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

279

CRM-M-53723-2023
Date of decision: 7th December, 2023

Lovepreet Singh

...Petitioner(s)

Versus

State of Punjab and another

...Respondent(s)

CORAM: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE MANISHA BATRA

Present: Mr. S.K. Rattan, Advocate for the petitioner.
Mr. Kunwarbir Singh, AAG, Punjab.

MANISHA BATRA, J (ORAL):-

The present petition has been filed under Section 438 of Cr.P.C.
seeking anticipatory bail in FIR mentioned below:-

FIR No.	Dated	Police Station	Sections
210	07.09.2023	City Sunam, District Sangrur	323 and 498-A of Indian Penal Code, 1860

2. The brief facts of the case relevant for the purpose of disposal of this case are that the aforementioned FIR was registered on the basis of statement recorded by the complainant Sayna Verma on 07.09.2023, alleging therein that she had met the accused while she was pursuing her studies at Punjab State Aero Neutical Engineering College Patiala. She had fallen in love with the petitioner and she was married with the petitioner-accused on 02.05.2023. Just one week after her marriage, the petitioner, his mother and sisters started extending beatings to her and told her to bring money from her parental house. She was subjected to cruelty on account of demands raised by

them. The petitioner purchased a phone of Apple brand by taking a loan of ₹ 72,000/- in the name of the mother of the complainant and sold it subsequently. In the similar manner, he purchased the phone of Apple Brand by taking loan in the name of her brother and the said phone was also sold later on, on 05.09.2023. He extended severe beatings to her when she refused to meet with his demand to bring money from her parental house. She managed to call her mother who got her admitted in hospital. She alleged that the petitioner, his mother and sister had been inflicting cruelty upon her and prayed for taken action against them. After registration of the FIR, investigation proceedings have been initiated.

3. The present petition has been filed by the petitioners seeking grant of anticipatory bail on the ground that he had performed marriage with the complainant against the wishes of her family members. They had eloped from respective houses as they were extended threat of life from the family members of the complainant, therefore, they have even filed a petition seeking protection of their life and liberty before the Sessions Court, Sangrur. The complainant-respondent No.2 had conceived in the month of July, 2023 and the petitioner and his family members were very happy to hear the news. The respondent No.2 was however, adamant to get the pregnancy aborted on the ground that she was very young and wanted to enjoy her life. On refusal of the petitioner to do so, respondent No.2 and her mother had exerted pressure upon him to give consent for the abortion. The respondent No.2 had left his company on 04.09.2023 and had involved him falsely in this case. The subject offences were not made out against him at all. He was ready to join the investigation, his custodial interrogation was not required. Therefore, he prayed for granted benefit of pre-arrest bail.

4. Vide order dated 20.10.2023 passed by this Court, the petitioner was released on interim bail and was directed to join investigation.
5. Learned State counsel filed status report dated 07.12.2023. The same is taken on record. He further, on instructions from Investigating officer submits that the petitioner has joined the investigation and he is not required for custodial interrogation.
6. In view of the said facts, without commenting on the merits of the case, the present petition is allowed and the order dated 20.10.2023 granting interim bail to the petitioner is made absolute, subject to the conditions laid down in Section 438(2) of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

[MANISHA BATRA]

JUDGE

7th December, 2023

Parveen Sharma

1. Whether speaking/ reasoned : Yes / No
2. Whether reportable : Yes / No