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CRM-M-28887-2024

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

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Date of decision: August 21, 2024

GURWINDER SINGH

....Petitioner

Versus

STATE OF PUNJAB

.....Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HARPREET SINGH BRAR

Present:- Ms. Navneet Kaur, Advocate for
Mr. Vivek K. Thakur, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Rishabh Singla, AAG, Punjab.

HARPREET SINGH BRAR, J.

The present petition has been filed under Section 482 Cr.P.C. seeking quashing of FIR bearing No.23 dated 07.03.2023 registered under Section 376 IPC at Police Station Phase 11, District SAS Nagar, Mohali.

On 31.5.2024, the following order was passed:

1. The present petition has been filed under Section 482 Cr.P.C. seeking quashing of FIR bearing No.23 dated 07.03.2023 registered under Section 376 IPC at Police Station Phase 11, District SAS Nagar, Mohali.

2. Learned counsel for the petitioner inter alia contends that the petitioner is the victim of extortion racket run by Dilharjeet Singh in connivance with his

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wife. Dilharjeet Singh and his wife and their associates have been booked in 04 FIRs, the details of which are reproduced hereunder:

Sr. No	FIR No(s) and date	Under Section(s)	Highlights in the FIR
1.	222 dated 06.10.2023	370, 370-A(2), 376(2)(n), 67(a) & 67 (B) of IPC	The said Dilharjeet attempted rape with the complainant and used her to file false cases on innocent persons
2.	233 dated 13.10.2023	388, 389, 420, 120-b of IPC	The said Dilharjeet, Pradeep Kaur, Abhinoor (son of Dilharjeet) and others extorted Rs.15 lakhs from complainant under threat of filing false rape cases.
3.	281dated 14.12.2023	388, 389, & 120-B of IPC	The said Pradeep Kaur, Dilharjeet and gang member Kuldeep Kaur involved in attempt sextortion case.
4.	15 dated 23.04.2024	388 & 120-B of IPC	The said Dilharjeet and his girl Suniana extorted the amount of Rs.21,10,801/- from the complainant

Learned counsel for the petitioner further refers to Annexure P-9, in which one Sachin Chauhan was granted anticipatory bail by this Court in case bearing CIS No.CRM-M-40696 of 2023. Learned counsel has brought the attention of this Court to the order passed by this Court, in which the aforementioned Sachin Chauhan was involved in a false case on identical allegations. He further refers to Annexure P-11, the order passed by this Court in case bearing CIS No.CRM-M-46936 of 2023, in which, learned State counsel, on instructions from Inspector Paramjit Kaur, has stated that it is the same Dilharjeet Singh, who has been arrested in the honey-trap racket.

3. Learned counsel for the petitioner further contends that the racket was busted, the Station Head Officer (SHO) of the concerned Police Station along with Dilharjeet Singh were arrested. Dilharjeet Singh and his wife have adopted a *modus operandi* to trap gullible people to honey-trap with active connivance of the police. Learned counsel submits that all these FIRs against innocent persons have been registered in District Ropar and Mohali. The petitioner has also highlighted the transaction ID of the amount of Rs.21,00,000/- deposited in the

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account of Dilharjeet Singh and his sister, which proves the extortion committed by these persons with the petitioner and initially after compromising the matter in September 2022, the FIR (supra) has been lodged on 07.03.2023.

4. Notice of motion.

5. Mr. Sandeep Kumar, DAG, Punjab, present in the Court, accepts notice on behalf of respondent-State.

6. With the advent of new technologies and greater connectivity, the menace of honey trapping has become even more prevalent and potent. It is a strategy that employs seduction and temptation in order to unearth information from targeted individuals or manipulate them into morally dubious situations. It not only has a deleterious impact on interpersonal relationships but also has wider ramifications such as increased distrust in society. This tactic has recently gained prominence with respect to State espionage where it is actively resorted to in order to gain access to vital material and intelligence. This Court is of the stern opinion that this practice needs to be strongly discouraged and dealt with rigorously, in order to nip it in the bud.

7. Inspector General of Police, Range Ropar is directed to depute a Senior officer to investigate the FIR (supra) and also to file his affidavit after checking the veracity of the allegations contained in the present petition.

8. Adjourned to 21.08.2024.

9. In the meantime, filing of the final report under Section 173 Cr.P.C. against the petitioner shall remain stayed.

In compliance thereof, a status report by way of affidavit of Nilambari Vijay Jagdale, IPS, Deputy Inspector General of Police, Rupnagar Range, Rupnagar has been filed on behalf the respondent-State. Learned State Counsel refers to the status report and submits that the veracity of the allegations made by the complainant in the FIR (supra) has been thoroughly examined and they have been found to be false. The cancellation report has been prepared which is likely to be submitted before the Jurisdictional Magistrate within a period of 4 weeks. FIR No.15 dated 23.04.2024 has been registered against the complainant at the Police Station Phase 11, District SAS Nagar, Mohali for extorting money from the petitioner. Investigation in the present case is being carried out diligently.

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In view of the above, learned counsel for the petitioner wishes to withdraw the present petition, at this stage, as the same has been rendered infructuous.

Dismissed as having been rendered infructuous.

(HARPREET SINGH BRAR)
JUDGE

August 21, 2024
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Whether speaking/reasoned	Yes
Whether reportable:	No