



CRM-M-30280-2024 (O&amp;M) 1

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA  
AT CHANDIGARH

214

CRM-M-30280-2024 (O&amp;M)

Date of Decision: 21.08.2024

SHAKUNTALA DEVI

...Petitioner

Versus

STATE OF PUNJAB

...Respondents

CORAM:- HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE HARPREET KAUR JEEWAN

Present:- Mr. R.S. Sidhu, Advocate  
for the petitioner.

Ms. Himani Arora, AAG, Punjab.

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HARPREET KAUR JEEWAN, J.

1. The instant petition has been filed under Section 438 Cr.P.C for grant of anticipatory bail to the petitioner in case FIR No.20 dated 03.04.2024 registered under Section 306 IPC at Police Station Khanauri, District Sangrur.
2. On 20.06.2024, the Coordinate Bench of this Court passed the following order and directed the petitioner to join the investigation:

‘Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that petitioner is the mother-in-law of the son of the deceased Narinder Kaur who allegedly committed suicide by hanging herself because her daughter-in-law Kirna Rani used to raise dispute in the family at the instigation of her maternal family. Learned counsel further submits that it is alleged that there is matrimonial dispute between the daughter of the petitioner and the son of the complainant. There is a delay of 05 months in lodging the FIR and there is no medical evidence of suicide.

2. Notice of motion.

3. Mr. Inderjeet Singh Ladher, DAG, Punjab accepts notice on behalf of the respondent-State and seeks time to file reply.

4. In the meanwhile, petitioner will join investigation before the Investigating Officer as and when called. In the event of her arrest, the Arresting Officer would admit her to interim bail, till the next date of hearing, on her furnishing adequate bail bonds/ surety bonds to his satisfaction. The petitioner is directed to abide by all the conditions as envisaged



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under Section 438(2) of Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973.  
5. List on 26.07.2024.'

3. Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that the co-accused of the petitioner namely Kirna Rani and Malkit Singh have already been granted concession of bail vide order dated 13.08.2024 in CRM-M-30404-2024 by this Court.

4. Learned counsel appearing on behalf of the respondent-State has informed that the petitioner had joined the investigation in terms of the order dated 20.06.2024 passed by the Coordinate Bench of this Court and custodial interrogation of the petitioner is not required. Learned State counsel has informed that the petitioner is mother-in-law of the victim. There is a delay of 5 months in lodging of the FIR, as such there is no medical evidence. The body of the victim was cremated 5 months prior to the registration of the FIR.

5. Keeping in view the reasons recorded in the order dated 20.06.2024 and keeping in view the fact that the petitioner has joined the investigation and the allegations *inter se* the petitioner and complainant are matter of trial, the present petition is allowed and the order dated 20.06.2024 granting interim bail to the petitioner is made absolute, subject to the conditions laid down under Section 438(2) Cr.P.C.

6. Nothing expressed hereinabove would be construed to be an expression of opinion on merits of the case.

7. All pending miscellaneous application(s), if any, stands disposed of.

(HARPREET KAUR JEEWAN)  
JUDGE

21.08.2024

P.Bhatt

Whether speaking/reasoned  
Whether reportable

Yes/No  
Yes/No