



**205 IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH**

CRM-M-55438-2022

Date of decision: 21st May, 2024

Munish Kumar

...Petitioner(s)

Versus

State of Punjab and another

...Respondent(s)

CORAM: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE MANISHA BATRA

Present: Mr. Raj Kumar Arya, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. A.S. Samra, AAG, Punjab.

Mr. Varinder Basa, Advocate for respondent No.2.

MANISHA BATRA, J (ORAL):-

Through the instant petition under Section 438 of Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, the petitioner seeks anticipatory bail in case FIR No.137 dated 19.10.2022 registered under Sections 498-A and 406 of Indian Penal Code, 1860 at Police Station Dera Baba Nanak, District Batala.

2. Brief facts of the case relevant for the purpose of disposal of this petition are that the aforementioned FIR was registered on the basis of complaint submitted by the complainant Vandana Devi alleging therein that she was married with the petitioner on 04.04.2021 according to Hindu rites and rituals. Her parents had spent huge amount of money in marriage. Shortly, after the petitioner and the members of her in-laws family had



started taunting her on account of bringing insufficient dowry. They raised demand of a motorcycle and proclaimed that she would not be settled in her matrimonial house, if their demand was not met. The complainant did not tell about this fact to her parents and kept on tolerating the harassment meted out at the hands of the petitioner. On 04.03.2022, the petitioner had left her at her parents house by assuring that he would come to take her back but did not turn up again. When her parents went along with her to drop her there, the petitioner was not found to be present. She was however, made to stay in her matrimonial house due to intervention of the respectables of her matrimonial village while alleging that the behaviour of her husband and her in-laws remained the same and they had been torturing her. She prayed for taking action against them. After registration of FIR, investigation proceedings were initiated and are under way. The petitioner had moved an application for grant of pre-arrest bail before the Court of learned Additional Sessions Judge, Gurdaspur, which had been dismissed vide order dated 21.11.2022.

3. Vide order dated 14.11.2023, passed by this Court, the petitioner was released on interim bail and was directed to join investigation.

4. As submitted by learned State counsel, the petitioner has joined investigation on 21.11.2023 and his custodial interrogation is no more required.

5. In view of the said facts, without commenting on the merits of the case, the present petition is allowed and the order dated 14.11.2023

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.

6. Since the main petition has been disposed, pending application if any is rendered infructuous.

[MANISHA BATRA]
JUDGE

21st May, 2024
Parveen Sharma

1. Whether speaking/ reasoned

:

Yes / No
2. Whether reportable

:

Yes / No