

208-4

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

CRM-M- 62889-2023

Date of decision: 1st May, 2024

Satya Rani @ Sukhwinder Kaur

...Petitioner(s)

Versus

State of Punjab

...Respondent(s)

CORAM: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE MANISHA BATRA

Present: Mr. H.S. Jakhal, Advocate for the petitioner.
Mr. A.S. Samra, AAG, Punjab.
Mr. Manuj Nagrath, Advocate for the complainant.

MANISHA BATRA, J (ORAL):-

The present petition has been filed under Section 438 of Cr.P.C. seeking anticipatory bail in case arising out of FIR No. 148 dated 14.12.2022 initially registered under Section 498-A of IPC at Police Station Lakho Ke Behram, Tehsil and District Ferozepur and offence under Section 307 of IPC having been added later on, on the basis of DDR No. 45 dated 20.10.2023.

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 statement recorded by the complainant Nancy Rani alleging therein that on 08.12.2022 at about 8-9 PM, her sister-in-law (*jethani*) Seema Rani who was residing in the neighbourhood, called the complainant to her house. Her husband and son were already present there. At that time, she was not feeling

well and when her husband told her to hold their seven months' old son and she requested him to not to do so as due to her high blood pressure, she was not able to hold him, her husband felt offended and started extending beatings to her. He threw her on the bed, sat over her and tried to strangle her. Even her brother-in-law (*jeth*) Surinder Singh and his wife Seema Rani also extended beatings to her. She further alleged that Palak Rani who is her sister-in-law (*devrani*) and her husband Parwinder Singh (*devar*) also reached there in the meanwhile and threw her out of the house of her sister-in-law. She made a call to her father to narrate the incident to him. Her phone was snatched by her husband and she was extended beatings by other members of her in-laws family. She alleged that she was being harassed by her in-laws family on account of demand of dowry and her husband had told her not to return to her matrimonial house until the demand of motorcycle and gold was fulfilled. She further alleged that on 09.12.2022 also, the present petitioner who is her mother-in-law, her husband and other members of her in-laws family extended beatings to her and her husband tried to administer some poisonous substance to her due to which she had started vomiting and Palak (sister-in-law) had made call to her father. Initially, a case under Section 498-A of IPC was registered. Subsequently, on 20.12.2023, offence under Section 307 of IPC was also added. The investigation is under way.

3. Vide order dated 14.12.2023 passed by this Court, the petitioner was released on interim bail and was directed to join investigation.

4. Learned State counsel on instructions states that the petitioner has

joined the investigation on 19.12.2023 and she is not required for custodial interrogation.

5. In view of the said facts, without commenting on the merits of the case, the present petition is allowed and the order dated 14.12.2023 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. It is clarified that observations made hereinabove shall not be construed as an expression of opinion on the merits of the case.

7. Since the main petition has been allowed, pending application if any is rendered infructuous.

[MANISHA BATRA]
JUDGE

1st May, 2024
Parveen Sharma

1. Whether speaking/ reasoned

:

Yes / No
2. Whether reportable

:

Yes / No