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(207)

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT
CHANDIGARH

CRM-M-34345-2024

Date of Decision: 05.02.2025

PRITAM

... Petitioner

Versus

STATE OF HARYANA

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JASJIT SINGH BEDI

Present: Mr. Balraj Gujjar, Advocate with
Mr. Ramesh Chand, Advocate and
Ms. Shweta Bawa, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Vinay Phogat, Asstt. A.G, Haryana.

JASJIT SINGH BEDI, J.

The prayer in this 4th petition under Section 439 Cr.P.C. is for the grant of regular bail in case bearing FIR No.223 dated 30.07.2019 (Annexure P-1) registered under Sections 302, 201, 120-B and 346 IPC, 1860 at Police Station Kheripul, Faridabad, Haryana.

2. The present FIR came to be registered at the instance of Kiran Devi wife of Shiv Singh (deceased) and the same reads as under:-

“To SHO, Kheripul, Faridabad. Sir, It is submitted that I, Kiran Devi wife of Shiv Singh, am resident of Street No.3, Hanuman Nagar, Chadder Godam, Faridabad. I am household lady, that my husband is doing private work of electrician. That on dated 28.07.19, I and my husband were present at the house, it was Sunday on that day, it was about 8 o'clock in the night that my husband went to meet someone



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after informing me. That after an hour when I made a phone call then he did not pick up my phone. That thereafter my husband did not return back to the house. That I made lot of search at my own level but could not be found anywhere, nor he returned back to home. That uptill now I had not given any application in the police station, that now I have come to the police station to give the missing application of my husband, that missing F.I.R. of my husband may be registered and my husband may be searched. I shall be grateful. Appearance fair colour, round face, well built physics, there is an injury mark on left chick, aged about 25 years, height 5.6, red shirt, white colour banyan, black lower, Bata sandal in feet of red black colour. Sd/- Kiran Devi.”

3. During investigation, the mother and brother of Shiv Singh namely, Chameli and Pradeep gave a written statement to the Police on 15.09.2019 stating that they suspected Kiran Devi (granted bail vide order dated 10.07.2024) wife of Shiv Singh who had committed the offence as she did not have a good character and used to often quarrel with the deceased.

Kiran Devi was arrested in the present case on 16.09.2019 and got recorded her disclosure statement to the effect that she along with Umesh @ Ambesh (granted bail vide order dated 24.05.2024 passed in CRM-M-15582-2024), Sandeep (granted bail vide order dated 19.07.2024), Pritam (petitioner) and Ram Mahesh had murdered her husband and had thrown the dead body into Gurugram Canal with an intention to dispose off the body.

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A motorcycle, make TVS Apache bearing Registration No.DL 3SA5803 was recovered from the Agra Canal on 20.08.2019 and was found to belong to the deceased.

Sections 302, 201, 120-B IPC were added in this case and the motive was stated to be the illicit relationship between Kiran Devi and co-accused Umesh @ Ambesh.

Sandeep and Pritam (petitioner) were arrested on 16.09.2019 and got recorded their disclosure statements admitting their guilt.

Umesh @ Ambesh surrendered and was arrested on 25.09.2019. The call detail records of the accused were persons collected and they were found to be in touch with each other.

Ram Mahesh surrendered before the Juvenile Justice Board and claimed himself to be a juvenile. However, the documents submitted by him were found to be fake and he was arrested in the present case on 20.11.2020.

It also transpired from the CDRs of the accused persons that they were all in contact with each other through mobile phone and were present at the spot of the incident on the night intervening 28/29.07.2019.

Despite an effort being made to locate the body, the same could not be found on account of the continuous flow of water in the canal.

4. The learned counsel for the petitioner contends that three main accused namely, Umesh @ Ambesh, Kiran Devi and Sandeep have been granted the concession of regular bail. The case of the petitioner was on a better footing. As he was in custody for the last 05 years, 04 months and 11

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days but only 15 of the 22 prosecution witnesses had been examined so far, the Trial of the present case was not likely to be concluded anytime soon and therefore, he was entitled to the concession of bail.

5. The learned State counsel does not dispute the factual contention that the three main accused had been granted the concession of regular bail as also the fact that the petitioner was in custody for the last 05 years, 04 months and 11 days but only 15 of the 22 prosecution witnesses had been examined so far.

7. I have heard the learned counsel for the parties.

8. Admittedly, the petitioner named in the disclosure statements of his co-accused. The three main accused have already been granted the concession of bail. He is stated to be in custody for the last 05 years, 04 months and 11 days but only 15 of the 22 prosecution witnesses have been examined so far. Therefore, the Trial of the present case is not likely to be concluded anytime soon. In this situation, his further incarceration is not required.

9. Thus without commenting on the merits of the case, the present petition is allowed and the petitioner-Pritam S/o Mewa Ram is ordered to be released on bail subject to him furnishing bail bonds and surety bonds to the satisfaction of learned CJM/Duty Magistrate, concerned.

10. The petitioner shall appear before the police station concerned on the first Monday of every month till the conclusion of the trial and inform

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in writing each time that he is not involved in any other crime other than the present case.

11. In addition, the petitioner (or anyone on his behalf) shall prepare an FDR in the sum of Rs.2,00,000/- and deposit the same with the Trial Court. The same would be liable to be forfeited as per law in case of the absence of the petitioner from trial without sufficient cause.

12. The petition stands disposed of.

(JASJIT SINGH BEDI)
JUDGE

05.02.2025

JITESH

Whether speaking/reasoned:- Yes/No
Whether reportable:- Yes/No