



IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

207

CRM-M-57845-2024
Decided on: 19.02.2025

Anju Mehta @ Anju BalaPetitioner
Versus
State of PunjabRespondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY VASHISTH

Present: Mr. G.B.S. Dhillon, Advocate for the petitioner.
Mr. Amandeep Singh, DAG, Punjab.
Mr. Parveen Chauhan, Advocate for the complainant.

SANJAY VASHISTH, J.

1. Prayer in this petition, filed under Section 482 of the BNSS, 2023 (earlier Section 438 Cr.P.C.), is for grant of anticipatory bail to the petitioner, who has been booked in a criminal case arising out of First Information Report, as detailed hereunder:-

Name of Petitioner	FIR No.	Date	Section(s)	Police Station	District
Anju Mehta @ Anju Bala	165	27.07.2024	304 and 120 IPC (Sections 302 and 307 IPC were added lateron)	Sadar Amritsar	Police Commissionerate Amritsar, District Amritsar

2. On 21.11.2024, following order was passed:-

“The petitioner seeks grant of anticipatory bail in respect of a case registered vide FIR No.165, dated 27.7.2024 at Police Station Sadar Amritsar, District Police Commisionerate Amritsar, District Amritsar, under Sections 304, 120-B of Indian Penal Code, wherein offences under Sections 302 and 307 IPC were added later on.
The FIR was lodged at the instance of Lakhwinder Kaur wherein she alleged that her younger son Prince Chauhan was



married to Navdeep Kaur about 6 years back and they were blessed with a son who is aged about 5 years. However, her daughter-in-law Navdeep Kaur wanted to learn astrology and came in touch with one Pandit Varun Mehta and used to visit his house frequently and on account of which there used to remain quarrel between complainant's son and daughter-in-law. Complainant's son Prince Chauhan went into depression. On 11.6.2024 at about 11:00 AM when complainant was present at home with her son, then her daughter-in-law served food to them, but shortly after having the same complainant's son started feeling unwell upon which the complainant told her daughter-in-law to give lemonade to complainant's son. Navdeep Kaur brought two glasses of lemonade and gave one to Prince Chauhan and other to the complainant. After consuming the same, complainant's son Prince Chauhan started vomiting and fell on the floor. Even the complainant started vomiting and fell on the floor. Complainant's elder son Navjot Singh took them to Care and Cure Hospital at Amritsar where they remained under treatment for 5 days and then came back to their house. However, their health again deteriorated during night and later on the night intervening 16/17.06.2024 Prince Chauhan was admitted to Parvati Hospital, Amritsar and on the next day even the complainant was admitted in the same hospital. While Prince Chauhan remained admitted for 10 days, the complainant remained admitted for 5 days and then came back home. Subsequently, the complainant was admitted to one K.D. Hospital and her son Prince Chauhan was admitted to Adhlakha (The Shiva) Hospital, Maqboolpur Road, Amritsar. Pandit Varun Mehta came to Adhlakha Hospital and told them that they should go back to their house otherwise they will not survive in the hospital. Thereafter Pandit Varun Mehta also came to their residence and told them to keep lying on bed otherwise they will die. However, their health further deteriorated and on 06.07.2024 the complainant and her son were admitted to Escort Hospital, Amritsar and were later taken to PGI, Chandigarh on 07.07.2024 where Prince Chauhan breathed his last while under treatment. The complainant was then shifted to Dayanand Medical College and Hospital at Ludhiana on 09.07.2024. It is alleged that Pandit Varun Mehta, his wife Anju Mehta, his sons's brother-in-law Manu and Simu, in connivance with complainant's daughter-in-law Navdeep Kaur had administered some poison in lemonade to Prince Chauhan and had murdered him.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submitted that as per the case of prosecution the main accused i.e. Navdeep Kaur had been visiting the house of petitioner's husband and is also alleged to be having some kind of affair with him. Learned counsel submitted that under these circumstances, it is highly unlikely that the petitioner would have joined hands with her husband so as to administer poison to the deceased as well as to mother of the deceased. It has been submitted that while the petitioner's husband (Varun Mehta) could have a genuine motive



to eliminate the deceased as he allegedly was having an affair with wife of the deceased, but the said motive certainly cannot be attributed to the present petition, who is wife of Varun Mehta. It has also been submitted that the petitioner is a lady aged about 39 years and has a clean record.

Notice of motion for 19.2.2025.

At this stage, Mr. Veneet Sharma, Advocate has put in appearance on behalf of the complainant and has filed Power of Attorney, which is taken on record.

Meanwhile, in the event of arrest, the petitioner be released on interim bail subject to her furnishing personal bonds and surety bonds to the satisfaction of Arresting/Investigating Officer. However, the petitioner shall join the investigation as and when called upon to do so and cooperate with the Investigating Officer and shall also abide by the conditions as provided under Section 438 (2) Cr.P.C.

3. At the very outset, learned counsel for the petitioner contends that in compliance to the order dated 21.11.2024, passed by the co-ordinate Bench of this Court, petitioner has joined the investigation, and has fully co-operated.

4. Learned State counsel confirms the said averment. While filing the short reply by way of affidavit of Arvind Meena, IPS, Assistant Commissioner of Police, North, Amritsar, learned State counsel submits that the petitioner is not found involved in any crime, therefore, cancellation report has been forwarded to the Court of Area Magistrate.

5. Learned counsel for the complainant still opposes the prayer of the petitioner.

5. Heard learned counsel for the parties.

6. Since the petitioner has joined the investigation and found innocent also, prima facie it cannot be observed that the custodial interrogation is required for any purpose, thus, present petition is allowed and ad-interim order dated 21.11.2024, passed by this Court is hereby made absolute.



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However, petitioner shall continue to join the investigation as and when required to do so and abide by all the terms and conditions laid down under Section 482(2) of BNSS, 2023.

7. Accordingly, petition stands disposed of.

19.02.2025
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(SANJAY VASHISTH)
JUDGE

Whether Speaking/Reasoned: **YES/NO**
Whether Reportable: **YES/NO**