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

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**CRM-M-1061-2025  
Date of Decision: 03.04.2025**

Harwinder Kaur ..... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab ..... Respondent

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JASGURPREET SINGH PURI**

Present: Mr. B.S. Aulakh, Advocate  
for the petitioner.

Mr. P.S. Bhandari, AAG, Punjab.

Mr. K.B.S. Man, Advocate,  
for the complainant.

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**JASGURPREET SINGH PURI, J. (ORAL)**

1. The present petition has been filed under Section 483 of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 for grant of regular bail to the petitioner in FIR No.209 dated 24.12.2021 under Sections 498-A, 304-B, 506, 201 & 34 of IPC, registered at Police Station Kotbhai, District Sri Muktsar Sahib.

2. Learned counsel for the petitioner has submitted that it is a case where the petitioner, who is a lady of the age of 52 years, is in custody for 3 years 1 month and 15 days and in the present case the allegations against the petitioner were with regard to the demand of dowry and harassment. He further submitted that the charges in the present case were framed on 17.09.2022 which is almost 2½ years ago and till date only the complainant has been examined that too he has been examined-in-chief and in this way the



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trial has been delayed. He further submitted that considering the aforesaid facts and circumstances and the long custody of the petitioner and the fact that the petitioner is a lady of the age of 52 years, she may be considered for grant of regular bail.

3. On the other hand, Mr. P.S. Bhandari, learned AAG, Punjab, on instructions from ASI Jagdish Singh, has submitted that so far as the custody of the petitioner is concerned, the same is correct and the petitioner is in custody for 3 years 1 month and 15 days and it is also correct that the charges in the present case were framed on 17.09.2022 which is almost 2½ years ago but only one witness i.e. the complainant has been examined that too partially. He however submitted that the allegations against the petitioner are serious in nature although she is only mother-in-law and therefore, she does not deserve the concession of regular bail.

4. Mr. K.B.S. Mann, learned counsel for the complainant has submitted that although the trial has been delayed but it has been delayed at the instance of the counsel for the accused seeking repeated adjournments and that itself cannot become a ground for grant of regular bail to the petitioner.

5. I have heard the learned counsels for the parties.

6. It is a case where the petitioner, who is a lady of the age of 52 years and was the mother-in-law of the deceased, has already faced incarceration for 3 years 1 month and 15 days. As per the learned counsels for the parties, the charges in the present case were framed on 17.09.2022 which is 2½ years ago and not even a single witness has been examined except for partial examination of the complainant. So far as the argument which has been raised by the learned counsel for the complainant that the trial has been delayed at the instance of the counsel for the petitioner/accused is concerned,



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that itself cannot become a ground for denial of bail to the petitioner considering the aforesaid long custody of the petitioner.

7. In view of the aforesaid facts and circumstances of the present case, this Court deems it fit and proper to grant regular bail to the petitioner. Consequently, the present petition is allowed and the petitioner is ordered to be released on regular bail on furnishing bail bond/surety bond to the satisfaction of the trial Court/Duty Magistrate concerned, if not required in any other case.

8. However, anything observed hereinabove shall not be treated as an expression of opinion on merits of the case and is only meant for the purpose of decision of present petition.

**03.04.2025**

*Bhumika*

**(JASGURPREET SINGH PURI)**  
**JUDGE**

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|------------------------------|--------|
| 1. Whether speaking/reasoned | Yes/No |
| 2. Whether reportable:       | Yes/No |