



CRM-M-28407-2025

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

CRM-M-28407-2025

Date of Decision:- 25.08.2025

HARBANSI DEVI AND ANOTHER

...Petitioners

Vs.

STATE OF PUNJAB

...Respondent

CORAM:- HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE AMARJOT BHATTI

Present:- Mr. Rahul Garg, Advocate for
Mr. Naveen Batra, Advocate for the petitioners.
Ms. Manjot Kaur, AAG, Punjab.

AMARJOT BHATTI, J.

1. Petitioners have filed instant petition under Section 482 of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 for grant of anticipatory bail in FIR No.3 dated 06.01.2025 under Sections 80, 3 (5) of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (Section 85 of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 added later-on), registered at Police Station Sri Anandpur Sahib (Annexure P-1).

2. As per facts of the case, Kuldip Chand complainant gave his statement that his elder daughter Gurpreet Kaur aged 26 years was married to Sohan Singh in the year 2022. He had given dowry as per his capacity. His son-in-law was employed in Indian Army. Her in-laws' family remained good with his daughter for about 2-3 months and thereafter they started taunting his daughter for bringing less dowry. His son-in-law joined his duty and thereafter father-in-law Gurdial, mother-in-law Harbansi, brother-in-law (*jeth*) Pawan Kumar @ Pammu and sister-in-law (*jethani*) Jinder Kaur started beating his daughter for bringing less dowry. This fact is brought to



the notice of his son-in-law Sohan Singh who tried to convince his family but there was no change in their behaviour. On 05.01.2025 at about 5.15 pm he received call from Sarwan Kumar that his daughter has expired and to reach village Samlah. He along with his family reached the matrimonial home where dead body of his daughter was lying in courtyard. On enquiry, Gurdial Singh father-in-law disclosed that his daughter had committed suicide by hanging. Complainant stated that his daughter was ill-treated by father-in-law Gurdial Singh, mother-in-law Hanbansi, *jeth* Pawan Kumar and *jethani* Jinder Kaur by saying that her parents did not give a motorcycle or a car in the marriage. With these allegations, present FIR has been registered.

2. Learned counsel for the petitioners argued that allegations levelled against both the petitioners are false and without any basis. Gurdial Singh father-in-law is patient of paralysis whereas Harbansi Devi mother-in-law is patient of cancer. Their medical treatment records are annexed as Annexures P-2 and P-3. In-fact, alleged victim Gurpreet Kaur wanted to live separately from the joint family. Unfortunately, Gurpreet Kaur has committed suicide. They have no role to play in the same. Their anticipatory bail applications were wrongly declined by the learned Additional Sessions Judge Rupnagar by passing orders dated 09.05.2025 (Annexure P-4) and Annexure P-5 respectively. Petitioners will abide by the terms of bail order.

3. Bail petition is opposed by learned counsel representing State. Status report has been filed confirming the facts narrated in the FIR. It is pointed out that the deceased victim died unnatural death in the matrimonial home. There are specific allegations of maltreatment on account of demand



for motorcycle/car by the present petitioners along with other co-accused. They are yet to join the investigation. Supplementary status report is also filed confirming the medical history of Harbansi Devi. Petitioner No.1 who suffered throat cancer and remained under treatment from time to time. Medical record of Harbansi Devi for the year 2014 could not be located from GMCH, 32, Chandigarh. This fact was also verified from Command Hospital, Chandi Mandir that she remained OPD patient from 2015 to 2017. Thereafter, she is getting treatment from other hospitals as detailed in the status report. Similarly, petitioner No.2 Gurdial Chand also remained under treatment with the diagnosis of Cerebrovascular Accident (CVA) Left Middle Cerebral Artery (MCA) territory Infarct, resulting in right-sided hemiparesis (weakness) and aphasia (a language disorder). Report given by Dr. Tarun Sharma Professor is Annexure R-3.

4. I have considered the aforesaid factual position. In the case in hand, Gurpreet Kaur daughter of the complainant died unnatural death in the matrimonial home. Marriage took place in the year 2022 and the occurrence took place on 05.01.2025. As per the facts narrated in the FIR, Kuldip Chand father of the deceased victim did not level allegations against his son-in-law Sohan Singh who was serving in the Army. Allegations are against present petitioners who are mother-in-law and father-in-law respectively and other co-accused Pawan Kumar (*jeth*) and Jinder Kaur (*jethani*) of the deceased victim. Supplementary status report clearly indicates that petitioner No.1 Harbansi Devi suffered throat cancer as a result she remained under treatment from time to time whereas Gurdial Chand - petitioner No.2 father-in-law also suffered from Cerebrovascular Accident (CVA) Left Middle



Cerebral Artery (MCA) which resulted into right- sided hemiparesis (weakness) and aphasia (a language disorder). They are ready to join the investigation as and when required. Considering their age and medical condition, anticipatory bail petition filed by both petitioners is allowed. They be not arrested. In case of their arrest, they be released on bail to the satisfaction of Arresting/Investigating Officer concerned, subject to condition that petitioners will join investigation as and when required. They will not tamper with or interfere with investigation and will not leave country without prior permission as provided under Section 482 (2) of BNSS, 2023.

6. Pending miscellaneous application(s), if any, stand disposed of accordingly as well.

(AMARJOT BHATTI)
JUDGE

25.08.2025

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