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**209 IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH**CRM-M-12821-2025
Date of decision: 07.05.2025**Harkirat Singh****....Petitioner****Versus****State of Punjab****....Respondent****CORAM: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE AMARJOT BHATTI**Present: Mr. Pragyat Bhardwaj, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Japjot Singh, AAG, Punjab.

Mr. Rajeev Bhatia, Advocate for the complainant.

AMARJOT BHATTI, J.

Petitioner-Harkirat Singh has filed present petition under Section 482 of BNSS, for grant of anticipatory bail in FIR No.0002, dated 28.01.2025, under Sections 316(2) and 85 of BNS, 2023, registered at Police Station NRI District Police Commissionerate, Jalandhar.

2. As per facts of the case, the complainant Sehajpreet Kaur permanent resident of New Zealand filed online complaint against her husband Harkirat Singh and other members of in-laws family. It is alleged that she was born and brought-up in New Zealand. She is citizen of New Zealand. Her family members are settled there for the last about 24-25 years. Her marriage was fixed with Harkirat Singh. Their marriage was performed on 28.01.2024. Prior to this, roka ceremony and other ceremonies took place in which her parents had spent huge amount. The marriage was performed, as per their demand and desire. In all functions costly items shagun etc. were given as detailed in the FIR. Parents of



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Harkirat Singh organized reception at Ambala on 29.01.2024 After marriage, on 19.02.2024, they had gone to Bali for five days. Behaviour of her husband was not good towards her as marriage was not performed as per their standard. Her husband was annoyed, when he came to know that she did not bring her credit card to Bali. After that they came to Ambala and resided there for two weeks. There was demand for a top model Fortuner car. They were not satisfied with the jewellery and shagun amount given by her parents. Prior to marriage, it was decided that Harkirat Singh will permanently settle down at New Zealand. The intention of her husband and other family members was not good right from the beginning. Finally, they came to New Zealand on 19.03.2024. Initially, they started residing at the residence of her parents and after about one week her husband started creating scene in the house and stopped talking to her and her parents. Her husband was B.Tech, MBA in marketing. A job was also arranged for her husband where she was working but he could not start his job as he was not having work permit. The applicant had purchased a separate house for herself and for her husband. Her parents had paid Rs.3 lac dollars and the balance amount of Rs. 788000 dollars were to be paid through bank loan to the seller. When the husband of applicant came to know about this fact he openly stated that he will not reside in the house until and unless he is given a house free from bank loan. There was illegal demand by the parents of her husband to the tune of Rs.3 lac dollars from her parents. Her parents refused to give this amount and on this, her husband started quarreling with her. Behaviour of her husband was unreasonable. He wanted to go back to India and openly proclaimed that he will not reside in New Zealand. He



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even threatened to commit suicide. Thereafter he came to India on 16.07.2024. After reaching India, he started sending wrong messages to the complainant. He started misbehaving with her and her family. With these allegations, present FIR was registered.

3. Learned counsel for petitioner argued that so long petitioner and his wife resided in India, there was no dispute. Allegations levelled against him are false and without any basis. It is not disputed that present petitioner had agreed to settle down in New Zealand for better future. Initially they were happy. He has also annexed whatsapp chat as well as the photographs of the couple as Annexure P-3 and Annexure P-6 respectively. The dispute had started after reaching New Zealand. Allegations regarding demand of dowry and misappropriation of her articles are false. There was no reason for the complainant to leave her belongings in India while going to New Zealand. There was no harassment to the complainant on their part. The dispute had arisen on account of difference in temperament. He has already joined the investigation and he is still ready to abide by the terms and condition of bail order. Therefore, his anticipatory bail application may be allowed.

4. Status report has been filed confirming the allegations detailed in the FIR. It is pointed out that petitioner joined investigation in compliance of order dated 07.03.2025. However, recovery is yet to be effected. Therefore, anticipatory bail of petitioner is opposed.

5. I have considered the arguments and have gone through the record. It is not disputed that the complainant and the present petitioner got married in India. After marriage both of them shifted to New Zealand. During their stay in New Zealand the differences arose between them. At



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present petitioner has returned to India whereas the complainant is in New Zealand. There is nothing on record to show that any dispute took place during her stay in India. Otherwise there was no reason for her to sponsor petitioner to New Zealand. It is also rightly pointed out that there was no reason for the petitioner to leave her belongings in India when she is permanently settled in New Zealand. On account of matrimonial dispute, present FIR has been registered. Petitioner is ready to cooperate with the investigating agency. No purpose would be served by sending the petitioner behind the bars.

6. Therefore, without expressing my mind on the merits of the case, anticipatory bail application filed by the petitioner- Harkirat Singh is allowed. He be not arrested. In case of his arrest, he be released on bail to the satisfaction of Arresting/ Investigating Officer concerned, subject to condition that petitioner will join the investigation as and when required. He 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.

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

(AMARJOT BHATTI)
JUDGE

07.05.2025
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1. Whether speaking/ reasoned : Yes /No
2. Whether reportable : Yes /No