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

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Date of Decision:- 08.05.2025

Raunaq Singh

...Petitioner

Vs.

State of Punjab and another

...Respondents

CORAM:- HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE AMARJOT BHATTI

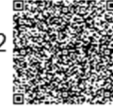
Present:- Mr. Akshay Chadha, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Japjot Singh, AAG, Punjab.

Mr. B.S. Bhalla, Advocate
for respondent No. 2.

AMARJOT BHATTI, J.(Oral)

1. Petitioner Raunaq Singh has filed second petition under Section 438 of Cr.P.C. for grant of anticipatory bail in case FIR No. 0012 dated 11.02.2024 (Annexure P-1) registered under Section 406 and 498-A of IPC at Police Station Women, Ludhiana Police Commissionerate.
2. Facts of the case are, Kiranjit Kaur filed written complaint against her husband Raunaq Singh Juneja and other members of in-laws family alleging that her marriage was performed with Raunak Singh Juneja on 22.10.2005 at Ludhiana. Prior to this, ring ceremony took place on 04.06.2005. At the time of ring ceremony and marriage, gold ornaments, Honda City car, TV, AC, furniture etc. were given as detailed in FIR. Said articles were her istrydhan which were entrusted to accused persons with

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understanding that she will be handed over the same for her use. After marriage, she realized that accused persons were greedy and cruel. They misappropriated her istridhan and also illegally sold the car. They also sold AC, TV and other articles without her knowledge. Her parents had given cash amount of Rs. 20 lacs to satisfy their demands. She was physically tortured. During this period, she gave birth to two sons, elder son studying in 10+2 class and younger son studying in 10th standard in Sacred Heart Convent School, Sarabha Nagar, Ludhiana. There was no change in behaviour of accused persons towards her and her children. Her husband when came to know about complaint, he consumed some pills and was admitted in Deep Hospital, Ludhiana. On 18.02.2018, she along with her younger son was taken by the side of canal and her husband told her to jump in canal if she really liked him alongwith minor son. She saved herself with great difficulty. Accused No. 1 and 2 used to abuse her and his family. Complainant has given detail of various incidents of cruelty which she faced in matrimonial home from time to time. Accused No. 1 and 2 started raising demand of Rs. 1 crore in the month of March, 2020. There was constant threat to her and her children and finally they were turned out from the house on 02.04.2022. Complainant further alleged that accused No. 1 alongwith co-accused used to obtain her signatures on blank papers, stamp papers, cheques by putting her under threat. With these allegations, present FIR has been registered.

3. Learned counsel for petitioner argued that present FIR has been lodged after 19 years of marriage when they are having grown up children. At the time of marriage, no dowry was given. Main dispute was

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between the petitioner and father of complainant. His parents have already been granted bail. No recovery is to be effected from him. He will abide by the terms and conditions of bail order. His anticipatory bail application was wrongly declined by learned Additional Sessions Judge, Ludhiana vide order dated 13.03.2024 (Annexure P-3). First anticipatory bail petition bearing CRM-M No. 14412 of 2024 filed by him was withdrawn vide order dated 01.05.2024 (Annexure P-5). It is submitted that his anticipatory bail petition may be allowed.

4. Detailed status report has been filed. It is pointed out that after registration of FIR several notices were sent to petitioner for joining investigation as referred in para No. 4 of status report. His anticipatory bail application was rightly declined by learned Additional Sessions Judge, Ludhiana vide order dated 13.03.2024. He had withdrawn his first anticipatory bail petition filed in this Court. Even in the earlier bail petition filed by petitioner, he was granted interim bail but there was no sincere effort on his part to cooperate with Investigating Agency for the recovery of istridhan. Therefore, first anticipatory bail petition filed in this Court was withdrawn. Even during the pendency of present petition, he was again granted interim relief vide order dated 02.07.2024. Even this time he has not cooperated with Investigating Agency, as a result, no recovery has been effected. Therefore, petitioner is not entitled to be released on bail.

5. I have considered the arguments advanced before me and have gone through the record carefully. From the aforesaid factual position, it is clear that petitioner was given interim relief time and again but despite this he did not cooperate with Investigating Agency and till date not even a

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single item of istridhan has been recovered. There are specific serious allegations of continuous maltreatment to complainant. As a result of this matrimonial dispute, complainant was turned out of the matrimonial home. Considering the facts narrated in FIR as well as his conduct throughout this period, I do not find it appropriate to grant anticipatory bail to petitioner. Resultantly, present petition filed by petitioner – Raunaq Singh is, accordingly, dismissed.

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

08.05.2025

*lalit***(AMARJOT BHATTI)
JUDGE**

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