

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH

210

CRM-M No.271 of 2015

Date of Decision:02.02.2015

Mulakh Raj

.....Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

.....Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MEHINDER SINGH SULLAR.

**Present: Mr.Ankur Mittal, Advocate,
for the petitioner.**

**Mr.Jaspreet Singh Sekhon, Assistant Advocate General,
Punjab, for the respondent-State.**

MEHINDER SINGH SULLAR, J.(oral)

Petitioner-Mulakh Raj son of Sunder Dass Khatri, claiming himself to be 72 years of age and a contract based Clerk in the office of D.T.O., Ferozepur, has preferred the instant petition for the grant of concession of regular bail, in a case registered against him along with his other co-accused Surinder Bhandari and others, vide FIR No.291 dated 21.10.2014, on accusation of having committed the offences punishable under Sections 260, 379, 411, 413, 420, 465, 467, 468 and 471 IPC, by the police of Police Station City Ferozepur.

2. Notice of the petition was issued to the State.

3. After hearing the learned counsel for the parties, going through the record with their valuable assistance and deep consideration of the entire matter, to my mind, the present petition for regular bail deserves to be accepted in this context.

4. Precisely, the prosecution, *inter alia*, claimed that the petitioner and his other co-accused have hatched a criminal conspiracy and prepared false RCs of different vehicles. Indisputedly, the registration covers, in question, were stated to have been prepared before joining of the petitioner in the office of DTO, Ferozepur. Moreover, the petitioner was arrested in this case on 10.12.2014. Since then he is in judicial custody and no useful purpose would be served to further detain him in jail. There is no history of his previous involvement in any other criminal case. Otherwise also, all the offences alleged against the accused are stated to be triable by the Court of Magistrate. Even, since the prosecution has not yet submitted the final police report(challan) against the accused, so, the conclusion of trial will naturally take a long time.

5. Not only that, Surinder Bhandari, similarly situated co-accused of the petitioner, was granted the concession of regular bail, by way of order dated 19.01.2015 in CRM No.M-44401 of 2014 by a Coordinate Bench(Sabina, J.) of this Court. Therefore, I see no reason not to extend the same benefit of regular bail to the present petitioner as well under the similar set of circumstances.

6. In the light of aforesaid reasons, taking into consideration the peculiar facts & the special circumstances, emanating from the record, as discussed here-in-above and without commenting further anything on merits, lest it may prejudice the case of either side during the course of trial of the main case, the instant petition for regular bail is hereby accepted. The petitioner is ordered to be released on bail on his

furnishing adequate bail bonds and surety bonds to the satisfaction of Chief Judicial Magistrate, Ferozepur.

Needless to mention that, nothing observed here-in-above, would reflect, on merits in the trial of the main case, in any manner, as the same has been so recorded for a limited purpose of deciding the present petition for regular bail.

February 02, 2015
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(**MEHINDER SINGH SULLAR**)
JUDGE