

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

**CRM-M No. 12821 of 2016 (O&M)  
Date of Decision: 23.05.2016**

Suresh Bhatia

..... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

..... Respondent

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JASWANT SINGH**

Present: Mr. Chetan Mittal, Sr. Advocate assisted by  
Mr. Varun Issar, Advocate  
for the petitioner.

Mz. Rimplejeet Kaur, Assistant Advocate General, Punjab  
for the respondent/State assisted by ASI Sinderpal Singh.

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**JASWANT SINGH, J. (ORAL)**

Prayer in this petition under Section 439 of Cr.P.C., is for grant of regular bail on behalf of the petitioner-accused-Suresh Bhatia in case FIR No. 29, dated 10.02.2015, for offences punishable under Sections 420, 465, 471, 467, 468, 120-B of the Indian Penal Code, registered at Police Station City, Rupnagar.

In a pending suit for specific performance, learned JMIC, Rupnagar, noticed that an agreement to sell was forged, as its execution was dated 11.05.2010, whereas stamp papers issued by the Treasury on 31.05.2013, were purchased on 03.06.2013. Main accused-Bhupinder Singh is the beneficiary and the petitioner-accused (Suresh Bhatia) alongwith co-accused-Satish Kumar are the attesting witnesses and the conspirators.

It is contended that the petitioner is in custody since 19.11.2015; after completion of the investigation, challan stands presented on 05.02.2016 with fourteen (14) cited prosecution witnesses and charges are yet to be framed.

Learned State Counsel, assisted by ASI Sinderpal Singh, does not dispute the custody period, role attributed to the petitioner and stage of trial.

Without commenting on the merits of the case, keeping in view the facts noticed above; custody period and role attributed to the petitioner, no useful purpose would be served by keeping the petitioner-accused in custody since the trial is not likely to be concluded in near future, the present petition is allowed and the petitioner is ordered to be released on bail subject to satisfaction of Chief Judicial Magistrate/Duty Magistrate concerned.

May 23, 2016

*'dk kamra'*

**( JASWANT SINGH )  
JUDGE**