

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

**CRM-M No. 8624 of 2016 (O&M)
Date of Decision: 03.05.2016**

Sunil Kumar Jain

..... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

..... Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JASWANT SINGH

Present: Mr. Harsh Chopra, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mz. Rimplezeet Kaur, Assistant Advocate General, Punjab
for the respondent/State assisted by HC Samarjeet Singh.

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-Sunil Kumar Jain in case FIR No. 65, dated 21.03.2014, for the offences punishable under Sections 409, 467, 468, 471, Indian Penal Code, registered at Police Station Morinda, District Ropar.

The petitioner/accused, while posted as a Bank Manger of Punjab Gramin Bank at Doomna, District Ropar, is alleged to have withdrawn huge amounts of money from the account of the customers/complainants by forging their signatures. He is also alleged to have issued a 'No Due Certificate' to one Jaspal Singh despite the land being mortgaged with the bank.

It is contended that the petitioner is in custody since 14.05.2015 and the trial is at the stage of the commencement of the evidence of 31 PWs. It is further contended that as per FSL report, the forged signatures of the customers have not been opined to be that of present petitioner/accused.

Learned State Counsel, assisted by HC Samarjeet Singh, does not dispute the custody period of the petitioner and the fact that examination-in-chief of only one witness out of 31 PWs has since been recorded. She further submits that the prosecution is contemplating to seek a fresh report from the FSL qua the signatures.

Without commenting on the merits of the case, keeping in view the facts noticed above; custody period of the petitioner and the fact that the trial is not likely to be concluded in near future, no useful purpose would be served by keeping the petitioner/accused in custody, 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 03, 2016

'dk kamra'

(JASWANT SINGH)
JUDGE