IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH

CRM-M No.13968 of 2017
Date of Decision: 23.05.2017

Gurpreet Singh ......Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab ... Respondent

CORAM:-HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE RAJ MOHAN SINGH

Present: Mr. R.S. Bajaj, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Ms. Rimplejeet Kaur, AAG, Punjab.

Mr. Amandeep Sharma, Advocate for
Mr. P.S. Khurana, Advocate
for the complainant.

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RAJ MOHAN SINGH, J.

[1]. Petitioner seeks anticipatory bail in case bearing FIR No.60 dated 18.03.2017 registered under Sections 420, 467, 468, 471, 120-B IPC at Police Station Sultanwind, District Amritsar.

[2]. Petitioner is an accused of the offences in question. As per preliminary inquiry conducted before the registration of the case and as per the investigation carried out after the registration of the case, it has been found that Jagjit Singh is the kingpin of the scam who was Managing Director of all the firms/companies which are involved in the present scam. Jagjit Singh had started his office at Tarn Taran road, Amritsar in the name and style of Crown Traders, which was never got

registered. Jagjit Singh started alluring persons to invest money on fake promises. Thereafter, he started another firm in the name and style of Capital Consultant Private Limited near railway crossing Tarn Taran road, Amritsar. This was also not registered. In the meanwhile, Jagjit Singh also started many other firms/companies in different names by alluring different persons for getting the money invested in these firms/companies. In as many as, 15 companies were found to be in operation. Most of the companies had the first name as 'Crown'. An impression was given that the firms/companies are related to Crown Group of Companies which has business in large scale. In this manner, words Crown Group of Companies were used by the accused to allure innocent persons, whereas no such company was in existence. They used to invest some part of the amount in Trade Next Limited, U.K and in the firms in India. The status of the petitioner is that of brother of Mandeep Singh and he remained attached with the main accused since very inception of the fake firm known as Crown Traders. Petitioner started giving franchises to various people in various parts of the State of Punjab, Haryana and Delhi without issuing any writing. The different franchises were given unique code in order to keep record of investment. Petitioner and his brother Mandeep Singh had also taken franchise from Jagjit Singh and even they started their own office at Tarn Taran road, Amritsar in the name of BDS Associates. They used to claim that they are marketing head of Capital Consultant Company which is related to Crown Group of Companies. They also used to tell the investors that they had another company namely Trade Next Limited which is based in U.K and Jagjit Singh is the partner in the company along with Mohsin Jameel. Petitioner along with his brother and others in collusion with Jagjit Singh used to organise big seminars at different places in the name of Trade Next Limited in order to allure more and more persons to invest their money in the company. Petitioner used to take active part in the seminars for alluring the persons for investigating their money in the company.

[3]. Learned counsel for the petitioner submitted that BDS Associates is a sole proprietor business concern of his brother Mandeep Singh and petitioner has no concern whatsoever. Petitioner was appointed in Quadrant Televentures Ltd. as Executive till 08.11.2013 and had no concern with the BDS Associates whatsoever. Mandeep Singh is the sole proprietor of aforesaid BDS Associates. Learned counsel further submitted that 23 agents of the company were also complainants in the FIR. The brother of the petitioner is also one of the agent of the company and no connectivity of the petitioner can be presumed

on the basis of allegations made in the FIR at this stage.

[4]. On the other hand, learned State counsel submitted that the petitioner was in the knowledge of activities of the company in collusion with his brother Mandeep Singh. Para Nos. 4 and 5 of the petition itself are suggestive of the fact that the petitioner was very much involved in the activities of the company. 25 complainants have come on record to alleged the conspiracy angle in the case involving the petitioner and the complaints of many more persons still to be considered on preliminary basis.

[5]. The FIR was registered on the complaints moved by Inderjit Singh Chahal and others with the allegations that Jagjit Singh, M.D of Crown Group of companies, his wife Gurmit Kaur, father Jasbir Singh, brother Sukhwinder Singh @ Raju, sister-in-law Amandeep Kaur, Sandeep Kaur, PA to Jagjit Singh, Jaswinder Singh Kaler, CEO Crown Company, Mandeep Singh, Gurpreet Singh, Sarabjit Singh, Manjit Singh (partner of Jagjit Singh), Sangeet Sharma (partner of Jagjit Singh), Amit Galhotra, his brother Sumit Galhotra, Gaurav Khanna, Manjit Singh, Harjit Singh and Amrik Singh, General Manager of Crown Company in connivance with each other have deceived crores of rupees and have disappeared. The complaints were enquired into by Economic Offence Wing at Amritsar. Complainants were

associated and it was found that Crown Group of Companies has its branches in different cities and have its business in Delhi, Punjab, Maharashtra and Haryana. It was found that Jagjit Singh was the Managing Director of Trade Next Limited and Crown Company. Mohsin Jameel was the Director and CEO of Trade Next Company. Nijay Mehta was Director of Trade Next Company. David was CEO of Force Kit and Crown Health & Care Company and Amit Galhotra was Marketing Director of Crown Health & Care Company. These facts were confirmed from numerous documents produced by the complainants. Various seminars and meetings were organized from time to time for alluring the people to invest their money on the pretext and promises that their money will be doubled in three years. Number of persons were duped in a sum of Rs.20,67,32,000/-.

[6]. The allegations and counter allegations at this stage cannot be taken into consideration for the purposes of forming any opinion on facts. Since investigation is pending, therefore, custodial interrogation of the petitioner is required in order to unearth larger angle of conspiracy and involvement of the persons. The allegations are of cheating in crores of rupees. Many persons have filed the complaints. Many more complaints are in pipeline. Since it is a case involving huge amount as per

the complainants, therefore, I do not consider this case to be fit enough to grant any indulgence under Section 438 Cr.P.C

[7]. In view of aforesaid, the present petition stands dismissed.

[8]. Nothing expressed hereinabove would be construed to be an expression of any opinion on merits of the case.

(RAJ MOHAN SINGH)
23.05.2017 **JUDGE**
prince

Whether Reasoned/Speaking **Yes/No**

Whether Reportable **Yes/No**