

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

CRM M-14357 of 2018

Date of decision : 25.04.2018

Satish Sabarwal

....Petitioner

V/s

State of Punjab

....Respondent

BEFORE : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE RAJAN GUPTA

Present: Mr. K.S. Sodhi, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. A.A. Pathak, Additional A.G. Punjab.

RAJAN GUPTA J.

Petitioner seeks concession of pre-arrest bail in a case registered against him under sections 420 IPC and 24(I) (b), (f) (g) of Emigration Act, 1983 and section 13 of Travel Professional Regulation Act, 2014 vide FIR No. 18 dated 04.02.2018 at police station Division No. 7, Jalandhar. It has been contended before the court that petitioner has been falsely implicated. He is not even remotely connected with the travel business. He is, thus, entitled to pre-arrest bail. On the other hand, State counsel has vehemently opposed the prayer for bail. According to Mr. Pathak, petitioner posed as one Vishal Sharma and took various sums from the innocent people with the promise to send them to Dubai or Kuwait. In this manner, he duped them of huge amount. His custodial interrogation is, thus, required.

I have heard learned counsel for the parties and given careful thought to the facts of the case.

A letter is received from the NRI Commission, Punjab regarding some persons having been duped by a travel agent on the promise of getting them jobs in the Gulf. Statements of certain persons were recorded. It transpired that petitioner posing as Vishal Sharma had collected various sums from general public promising to send them to Dubai or Kuwait. According to investigating agency, even fake tickets were handed to innocent persons. Neither their money was refunded nor any further action was taken to send them abroad.

Keeping in view the nature of allegations, I am of the considered view that no case for anticipatory bail is made out. Dismissed.

April 25, 2018

Ajay

(RAJAN GUPTA)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned:

Yes/No

Whether reportable:

Yes/No