

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

276

CRM-M No.19395 of 2018
Date of Decision: May 21st, 2018

Harish Kumar Bhambri

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AUGUSTINE GEORGE MASIH

Present: Mr. Karan Vir Nanda, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Kuldeep Singh, Senior Deputy Advocate General, Punjab.

AUGUSTINE GEORGE MASIH, J. (ORAL)

Petitioner has approached this Court for grant of anticipatory bail in FIR No.219 dated 17.11.2016 registered under Sections 420, 465, 467, 468, 471, 120-B of IPC at Police Station Moga City, wherein crores of rupees have been defrauded. Petitioner is stated to be the Public Relationship Officer of HDFC Bank, Moga Branch.

It is asserted by the counsel for the petitioner that the petitioner, on the basis of the documents which were produced before him, had only verified the said documents and had recommending the opening of the account and he is not the beneficiary in any manner and, therefore, the petitioner be granted the concession of anticipatory bail.

On the last date of hearing, counsel for the State was directed to inform the Court as to the specific role of the petitioner, to which an affidavit has been filed of the Deputy Superintendent of Police, City Moga, according to which not only the petitioner had identified the documents but had also identified that firm by the name and style of M/s Sethi Enterprises, Partap Road, Moga, was in existence and the business was in progress.

It has further been stated in his customer verification report that he had

contacted Rinku Kumar-complainant, who is running the firm for the last ten years, further recommending the opening of the current account. All this clearly shows the involvement of the petitioner in the fraud which was committed. Custodial interrogation of the petitioner is essential as the real persons apart from the petitioner and their *modus operandi* has to be established.

No ground for grant of anticipatory bail is made out.

The present petition stands dismissed.

May 21st, 2018
Puneet

(AUGUSTINE GEORGE MASIH)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned: Yes/No

Whether Reportable: Yes/No