

CRM-M-2420-2018

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

CRM-M-2420-2018

Date of Decision: 1st May, 2018

Ritu Mehta

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AUGUSTINE GEORGE MASIH

Present: Mr. L.S. Sidhu, Advocate,
for the petitioner.

Mr. Dhruv Dayal, Sr. DAG, Punjab.

Mr. Yogesh Goel, Advocate
for the complainant.

AUGUSTINE GEORGE MASIH, J. (ORAL)

Petitioner has approached this Court for grant of regular bail by filing this petition under Section 439 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, in FIR No.34, dated 08.02.2017, registered at Police Station Division No.5, District Ludhiana, under Sections 465, 467, 468, 471, 120-B, 166 and 167 of the Indian Penal Code.

It is the contention of the learned counsel for the petitioner that the petitioner was arrested in this case on 24.10.2017 and is in custody since then. He further contends that against the co-accused of the petitioner, namely, Sh. Rajinder Mehta, who is husband of the petitioner, challan has been presented. He further states that the trial in this case is to be conducted by a Magistrate which is not likely to conclude soon as the challan has been

filed against the co-accused only on 26.04.2018. The petitioner is in custody for the last more than 6 months and therefore, she may be granted the concession of regular bail during the pendency of the trial.

Counsel for the State, on instructions from ASI Baldev Singh, P.S. Division no.5, District Ludhiana, confirms the factum of filing of the challan against the co-accused-Rajinder Mehta.

Learned counsel for the complainant has opposed the prayer for grant of regular bail by asserting that the petitioner along with her husband has committed a heinous offence of defrauding the father-in-law and has also tampered with the official records.

I have considered the submissions made by the counsel for the parties and keeping in view the fact that the petitioner is a lady and in custody for the last more than 6 months, with the fact that the trial is not likely to conclude in near future as the challan against the co-accused has been presented only on 26.04.2018, the present petition is allowed and the petitioner is ordered to be released on bail subject to her furnishing bail and surety bonds to the satisfaction of the trial Court concerned.

Any observation made herein-above shall have no bearing on the merits of the case during the trial in any manner.

(AUGUSTINE GEORGE MASIH)
JUDGE

1st May, 2018
Harish

Whether speaking/reasoned:	Yes/No
Whether Reportable:	Yes/No