

**Sr. No.208
IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH**

CRM No. M-42910 of 2017 (O&M)

Date of Decision: 08.01.2018

Sandeep Sharma

... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

... Respondent

CORAM:- HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE TEJINDER SINGH DHINDSA

Present:- Mr. Chanakya Pandit, Advocate,
for the petitioner.

Ms. Jaspreet Kaur, AAG, Punjab.

TEJINDER SINGH DHINDSA, J.(ORAL)

Petitioner seeks benefit of regular bail pending trial in case FIR No.244 dated 29.10.2013, under Sections 419, 420, 465, 467, 468, 120-B IPC (Section 409 IPC and Sections 7/13 of Prevention of Corruption Act added later on), registered at Police Station Navi Baradari, Jalandhar District Jalandhar.

Counsel for the parties have been heard.

Allegations in a nutshell against the petitioner are that a compensation amount awarded in favour of land owner Madan Lal son of Choudhry Ram to the extent of Rs.60 lacs approximately was withdrawn by way of opening a fraudulent bank account and in which the petitioner had impersonated for Madan Lal.

Petitioner was arrested on 11.09.2017.

Investigation in the present case has been completed and the challan already stands presented.

It has gone uncontroverted that insofar as the awarded amount of Rs.60 lacs approximately involving the petitioner, recovery of Rs.22 lacs approximately has been effected from co-accused Sukhdev Singh Patwari. That apart co-accused Madan Lal, Manjeet Sharma and Jatinder Kumar Sharma are also stated to be the beneficiaries of such fraud as the money was withdrawn from such fraudulent bank account on the strength of self cheques but which were counter-signed by Jatinder Kumar Sharma.

Learned State counsel upon instructions from Inspector Madan Lal, Police Station Vigilance Bureau, Jalandhar Unit would concede that co-accused Jatinder Kumar Sharma, Manjeet Sharma as also Sukhdev Singh Patwari have been granted the concession of bail.

Trial is at the very initial stage and would take time to conclude. Petitioner has faced incarceration since 11.09.2017.

Without making any observations on merit and on the ground of parity along with the co-accused, petitioner is held entitled to the concession of bail.

Petition is allowed. petitioner be enlarged on bail subject to satisfaction of the Chief Judicial Magistrate/Duty Magistrate, Jalandhar.

Disposed of.

08.01.2018

vandana

**(TEJINDER SINGH DHINDSA)
JUDGE**

Whether speaking/reasoned
Whether Reportable

Yes
No