

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

Sr. No.215

**CRM-M-9860-2018**

**Date of decision : 16.03.2018**

Rajan John

..... Petitioner

**VERSUS**

State of Punjab

..... Respondent

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUDHIR MITTAL**

Present: Mr. Munish Puri, Advocate, for the petitioner.

Mr. Kirat Singh Sidhu, DAG, Punjab.

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**SUDHIR MITTAL, J. (Oral)**

The petitioner seeks regular bail in case FIR No.64 dated 16.09.2011, registered at Police Station Shahpurkandi, District Gurdaspur, under Sections 420, 467, 468, 471 and 34 IPC.

Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that as per the FIR, no money is alleged to have been paid to the petitioner. The main accused is Sohan Singh, who has reached a compromise with the complainant and the FIR qua him has been quashed. The brother of the petitioner, who is alleged to have opened an office in Bangkok has been granted regular bail by this Court and therefore the petitioner also deserves to be granted the same concession.

On the other hand, learned State counsel submits that the petitioner was declared proclaimed offender and was part of the gang of Sohan Singh, who induced the complainant to pay money to send his son abroad. Thus, the petitioner does not deserve to be released on regular bail.

Regarding the submission of the learned State counsel that the petitioner was declared as a proclaimed offender, learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the said order was challenged by him but the petition

was withdrawn. Subsequently, he has surrendered before the trial Court on 27.01.2018 and is in custody since then.

It is not in dispute that investigation in this case is complete and the challan has been presented in the Court. Out of nineteen prosecution witnesses, seven have been examined. The trial of the case will take some time.

Keeping in view of the fact that the co-accused, namely, Ajay Kumar (brother of the petitioner) has been released on regular bail and that the FIR against the main accused, namely, Sohan Singh has already been quashed, I deem it appropriate to release the petitioner also on regular bail.

Accordingly, the petition is allowed. Petitioner, Rajan John, is ordered to be released on bail on his furnishing bail and surety bonds to the satisfaction of the trial Court concerned.

**(SUDHIR MITTAL)**  
**JUDGE**

**16.03.2018**

Ramandeep Singh

Whether speaking / reasoned

Yes / No

Whether Reportable

Yes/ No