

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT
CHANDIGARH

CRM-M-7608-2019

Date of decision: 25.03.2019

Deepak Kumar

... Petitioner

Vs.

State of Punjab

... Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARVIND SINGH SANGWAN

Present: Mr. A.K. Walia, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Sidakmeet Sandhu, AAG, Punjab.

ARVIND SINGH SANGWAN, J. (ORAL)

Prayer in this petition is for grant of anticipatory bail in FIR No.280 dated 17.12.2018 under Sections 420, 406, 408, 120-B IPC and Section 13 of Punjab Prevention of Human Smuggling Act, 2012, registered at Police Station Civil Lines, Batala.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that as per allegations in the FIR, which is registered on the basis of an inquiry conducted by DSP Investigation, the petitioner is working as travel agent without any licence and on the pretext of sending 55 persons abroad, whose names and mobile numbers are given in the complaint, who have appeared before the Investigating Officer and recorded their statements that the petitioner has taken a total amount of Rs.16,42,000/- (details of each victim is given in the FIR itself) from them and thereafter, he has handed over forged documents like visa, air tickets etc. to the

complainants and thus, the petitioner has cheated them. It is further submitted that the petitioner is not owner of the travel agency and it was run by another accused and there is no evidence that the victims have made any payment to the petitioner.

In reply, learned State counsel has submitted that the petitioner has opened a National Tour and Travel office and on the pretext of sending 55 persons abroad, he along with other accused persons, has received a total amount of Rs.16,42,000/- from the complainants. It is further submitted that the complaints were made by 55 persons, on which an inquiry was conducted by Inspector Ravinder Singh and thereafter, it was verified by DSP Investigation and on his recommendation, the FIR was registered.

After hearing learned counsel for the parties, I find no ground to grant anticipatory bail to the petitioner. The petitioner could not give any satisfactory reply why 55 persons would appear against him during the investigation by the police as it is stated that the petitioner has cheated the complainants by taking the amount and in lieu thereof, he has given them forged documents like visa, air tickets etc.

Considering the serious allegations against the petitioner, I find no ground to grant anticipatory bail to him.

Dismissed.

[ARVIND SINGH SANGWAN]
JUDGE

25.03.2019

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Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No

Whether Reportable : Yes/No