

**In The High Court for the States of Punjab and Haryana
At Chandigarh**

CRM-M-44805-2018 (O&M)

Date of Decision:- 21.1.2019

Kuldeep Singh alias Keepa

... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

... Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE GURVINDER SINGH GILL

Present:- Mr. Maninder Singh Dhindsa, Advocate, for the petitioner.

Ms. Ruchika Sabherwal, AAG, Punjab.

GURVINDER SINGH GILL, J. (Oral)

1. The petitioner seeks grant of anticipatory bail in respect of a case registered against him vide FIR No.136, dated 22.9.2018, registered at Police Station Payal, District Khanna, under Section 61 of Punjab Excise Act, 1914.
2. The allegations, in nutshell, are to the effect that a secret information was received to the effect that petitioner brings liquor from Chandigarh and sells the same in Punjab at a higher rate. Pursuant to the receipt of said information a raid was conducted and 20 crates of liquor meant to be sold in Chandigarh only were recovered. The petitioner was however not arrested at the spot.
3. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that he has falsely been implicated in the present case and that there is no evidence worth credence to connect him with the alleged occurrence.

4. Learned State counsel, while opposing the petition, has submitted that in view of the huge recovery of liquor, no case for grant of anticipatory bail is made out. It has however been informed, upon instructions from ASI Tarsem Kumar, that the petitioner has since joined investigation.
5. Having considered rival submissions addressed before this Court and bearing in mind the fact that petitioner was not arrested at the spot and also that he has already joined investigation, in my opinion, it is a fit case for grant of anticipatory bail. The petition is as such accepted and interim directions issued vide order dated 10.10.2018 are made absolute subject to the condition that the petitioner shall appear and join the investigation as and when called upon to do so and cooperate with the Investigating Officer and shall abide by the conditions as provided under Section 438 (2) Cr.P.C.

January 21, 2019

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**(GURVINDER SINGH GILL)
JUDGE**

Whether speaking /reasoned

Yes / No

Whether Reportable

Yes / No