

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

(i)

CRM-M-1004-2020 (O&M)

Sukhmander

..... Petitioner

Versus

U.T., Chandigarh

..... Respondent

(ii)

CRM-M-4015-2020 (O&M)

Gurlal Singh Sran

..... Petitioner

Versus

U.T., Chandigarh

..... Respondent

(iii)

**CRM-14046-2020 in/and
CRM-M-10295-2020 (O&M)**

Tarandeep Walia

..... Petitioner

Versus

U.T., Chandigarh

..... Respondent

(iv)

CRM-M-10301-2020 (O&M)

Mandeep Singh

..... Petitioner

Versus

U.T., Chandigarh

..... Respondent

Date of Decision : 02.07.2020

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE RAMENDRA JAIN

Present : Mr. Robin Singh Hooda, Advocate
for the petitioner in CRM-M-1004-2020.

Mr. G.S.Gurna, Advocate
for the petitioner in CRM-M-4015-2020.

Mr. Deepak Girotra, Advocate
for the petitioner in CRM-M-10295-2020.

Mr. Varinder Arora, Advocate
for the petitioner in CRM-M-10301-2020.

Mr. Sukant Gupta, Addl. Public Prosecutor
for the respondent-UT, Chandigarh.

Mr. Munish Kumar Garg, Advocate
for the complainant.

RAMENDRA JAIN, J. (Oral)

Case has been taken up for hearing through video conferencing.

This order shall dispose of aforesaid four petitions under Section 439 Cr.P.C., for grant of regular bail to the petitioners in a case arising from FIR No.268 dated 07.10.2019, registered under Sections 419, 420, 120-B IPC, at Police Station Industrial Area, Chandigarh.

According to prosecution, M/s Pearson India Education Services Private Limited is engaged in the business of various high stakes computer-based examinations across the globe including the Pearson Test of English-Academic (PTE-A) for various clients and immigration authorities. For this purpose, complainant opened an office at Elante Mall, Industrial Area, Chandigarh. The petitioner in conspiracy with each other, by conducting proxy test of several candidates attempted to defraud immigration authorities of various countries, using the marks obtained by proxy testing.

Allegations against petitioner Tarandeep Walia and Sukhmander, are that they illegally using the name of a recognized travelling agency 'Trip Advisor' fraudulently collecting money from the persons, who wants to go abroad. They had taken Rs.12,50,000/- from a candidate namely Sushmita Reddy. During investigation, it

transpired that they also took Rs.5.5 lacs from Amanpreet Kaur and Rs.5,13,000/- from Jaspreet Kaur for the said purpose.

Allegations against petitioner Gurlal Singh Sran and Mandeep Singh are that they gave their debit/credit card for making payment to different persons appearing in PTE-A test.

Learned counsel contend that petitioners Sukhmander Singh, Tarandeep Walia, Mandeep and Gurlal Singh Sran are in custody since 07.10.2019, 04.11.2019, 05.11.2019 and 06.12.2019 respectively. According to prosecution 24 candidates were impersonated for getting immigration to visit abroad, but the police failed to arrest those persons. Conclusion of trial may take a sufficient long time. No useful purpose would be served by detaining the petitioners any more in jail.

On the other hand, learned State counsel vehemently opposed the grant of regular bail to the petitioner.

Considering overall facts and circumstances, but without expressing any opinion on the merits of the case, the aforesaid four petitions are allowed. Consequently, petitioners are ordered to be released on bail during pendency of trial, if not required in any other case, on their furnishing bail bonds and surety bonds to the satisfaction of Trial Court/Duty Magistrate concerned.

02.07.2020
mamta

(RAMENDRA JAIN)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned
Whether Reportable

Yes/No
Yes/No