

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH

CRM-M-10720-2020 (O&M).
Date of Decision: August 19, 2020

AKASHDEEP SINGH @ AKASH Petitioner(s)

Versus

STATE OF PUNJAB Respondent(s)

CORAM:- HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE LISA GILL

Present: Mr. Mohit Sadana, Advocate for
Ms. Amandeep Kaur, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Ramdeep P. Singh, D.A.G., Punjab.

LISA GILL, J.

This matter is being taken up for hearing through video conferencing due to outbreak of the pandemic, COVID-19.

The petitioner, Akashdeep @ Akash s/o Narinder Singh, prays for grant of bail pending trial in FIR No.31, dated 15.03.2019 under Sections 379-B, 379, 411, 392, 482 IPC and Sections 25, 27, 54, 59 of the Arms Act, registered at Police Station Division No.4, Police Commissionerate Ludhiana, District Ludhiana.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that identically situated co-accused have been afforded the concession of bail in CRM-M-30116-2019 and CRM-52388-2019. It is further submitted that the present petitioner and others were arrested in the above said FIR, which was registered on the basis of secret information that the petitioner and others had formed gang for looting and robbing the passerby. The present petitioner has been in custody since

15.03.2019 and the challan stands presented. It is, thus, prayed that this petition be allowed.

Learned counsel for the State is unable to distinguish the case of the present petitioner from the other co-accused, who have been afforded the concession of bail pending trial. It is verified on instructions from ASI Janak Raj that the petitioner is in custody since 15.03.2019.

There is no allegation that the petitioner is likely to abscond or influence witnesses. Due to outbreak of the pandemic COVID-19 there is not much progress towards conclusion of the trial. No useful purpose would be served by keeping the petitioner incarcerated any longer.

Keeping in view the facts and circumstances of the case but without commenting upon or expressing any opinion on the merits thereof, this petition is allowed. The petitioner be released on bail pending trial subject to his furnishing requisite bail bonds and surety to the satisfaction of the learned Trial Court/Duty Magistrate.

It is clarified that none of the observations made hereinabove shall be construed to be a reflection on the merits of the case. The same are solely confined for the purpose of decision of the present petition.

19.08.2020

Sunil

(LISA GILL)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned: Yes/No

Whether reportable: Yes/No