

205-2 IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

CRM-M No.12104 of 2020

Date of Decision:30.09.2020

RAJESH KUMAR @ PANKAJ

...Petitioner

Versus

STATE OF PUNJAB

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HARNARESH SINGH GILL

Present: Mr. Sandeep Sharma, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Pawan Sharda, Sr. DAG, Punjab.

HARNARESH SINGH GILL, J. (ORAL)

Case is taken up for hearing through video conferencing.

Petitioner has filed this petition under Section 439 of Cr.P.C.
for grant of regular bail in case FIR No.266 dated 4.12.2019 registered
under Sections 420, 465, 467, 468, 471 IPC of 1860 at Police Station Civil
Lines, Bathinda, District Bathinda.

Learned counsel for the petitioner states that the petitioner is an
employee of main accused namely, Harpreet Singh. He further pointed out
that as per the reply filed on behalf of the State, the petitioner i.e.Rajesh
Kumar @ Pankaj was sitting in the office and he has also handed over the
cheques to the complainant and other persons and the said cheques were
signed by Harpreet Singh. No other role has been attributed to the petitioner
and he has been in custody for about 10 months. The trial is not likely to
conclude on account of the prevailing Covid-19 pandemic.

Learned State counsel pointed out that the petitioner has been specifically named in the FIR and investigation in this case is still going on and main accused Harpreet Singh is yet to be arrested.

I have heard the learned counsel for the parties.

In view of the submissions made by the learned counsel for the petitioner, especially when the petitioner has been in custody for about 10 months; there is no specific role attributed to the petitioner in the FIR and that the trial of the case may take time to conclude as the country continues to plunge into the global pandemic, Covid-19, this Court finds that no useful purpose would be served by keeping the petitioner behind bars.

Therefore, without expressing any opinion on the merits of the case, the instant petition is allowed and the petitioner is ordered to be released on regular bail on his furnishing bail and surety bonds to the satisfaction of the learned trial Court/Duty Magistrate.

(HARNARESH SINGH GILL)
JUDGE

September 30, 2020

Jyoti-IT Whether speaking/reasoned Yes/No Whether Reportable Yes/No