

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

CRM-M-14647-2020 (O&M)

Date of decision : 10.06.2020

Govind Kapoor and others

...Petitioners

Versus

Satish Kumar

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ANIL KSHETARPAL

Present: Mr. Harkesh Manuja, Advocate for the petitioners.

ANIL KSHETARPAL, J. (ORAL)

The petitioners pray for grant of pre-arrest bail in a complaint case No.239 of 22.11.2019 registered under Sections 420, 467, 468, 471 and 120-B of the Indian Penal Code. The petitioners have been summoned vide order dated 30.01.2020.

The petitioners applied for grant of pre-arrest bail, which was allowed by the learned Additional Sessions Judge, Panipat vide order dated 07.03.2020 directing them to appear before the trial Court within a period of 15 days. Due to lockdown and subsequent curfew, the petitioners could not appear before the learned trial Court. The prayer for extension of time filed before the Court of Additional Sessions Judge was declined on 11.05.2020.

On account of restrictions in the movement of public, due to curfew in wake of situation created by spread of COVID-19, the petitioners

could not appear before the trial Court within the time prescribed. The working of the Courts during this time continues to be restricted. The petitioners have only been summoned in a criminal complaint triable by the Magistrate.

Keeping in view the facts of the case, this Court is of the considered view that the time for putting in appearance before the trial Court is required to be extended without issuing notice to the respondent.

Accordingly, the petitioners are granted one month time from today to appear before the trial Court. The time granted by the learned Additional Sessions Judge vide order dated 07.03.2020 shall stands extended accordingly.

Hence, the present petition is disposed of.

Needless to observe that the complainant would be at liberty to move an application for recall of the order, if the facts are otherwise.

10.06.2020

Pawan

**(ANIL KSHETARPAL)
JUDGE**

Whether speaking/reasoned:- Yes/No

Whether reportable:- Yes/No