

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

207

CRM-M-16545-2020

Date of decision: 13.07.2020

Sajan**.....Petitioner****versus****State of Punjab****....Respondent****CORAM: Hon'ble Mr. Justice Girish Agnihotri**

Present: Mr. Pankaj Bali, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Pawan Sharda, Sr. DAG, Punjab.

GIRISH AGNIHOTRI, J. (Oral)

The matter has been taken up through video-conferencing on account of lockdown due to outbreak of pandemic COVID-19.

Petitioner-Sajan who is stated to be aged 41 years, has filed the present petition *inter alia* praying for grant of regular bail in case FIR No.201 dated 17.09.2019, under Sections 458, 380, 411 of IPC, registered at Police Station Sadar Khanna, District Ludhiana.

Learned counsel for the petitioner based on pleadings submits that the petitioner is not named in the present FIR. Learned counsel further submits that even his body description has not been given by the complainant or the injured. The story put forth by the complainant is concocted and not trustworthy. He however submits that the other two co-accused have been granted bail by this Court in CRM-M No.51466 of 2019 titled as 'Karnail

Vs. State of Punjab', decided on 17.01.2019 (Annexure P-2) and in CRM-M No.9056 of 2020 titled as 'Tarsem @ Sema vs. State of Punjab', decided on 18.05.2020 (Annexure P-3).

On the asking of Court, learned State counsel informs that challan has been presented. He further submits that there are total of 14 witnesses and charges are yet to be framed and the case is fixed for framing of charges on 05.08.2020. Learned counsel, however, on instructions from Sub-Inspector Satnam Singh, informs the Court that the injured Jeera Ram had suffered injuries on head and arm but the same are simple in nature.

Faced with the above, learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the petitioner is in custody since 23.10.2019 and has thus completed almost nine months of custody. Learned counsel then submits that due to the present COVID-19 situation and also the fact that trial is likely to take some time, detention of the petitioner in jail is dangerous to his life. Therefore, petitioner is entitled for regular bail.

In view of the peculiar facts as noticed above, considering the existing situation due to COVID-19 and the fact that trial is likely to take some time, this Court deems it appropriate to direct the release of the petitioner on regular bail to the satisfaction of Chief Judicial Magistrate/Duty Magistrate concerned, subject to his furnishing bail bonds/surety bonds. However, it is made clear that anything observed herein shall not be construed as an expression on merits of the case. The petitioner is directed to deposit Rs.10,000/- toward medical expenses with the Duty Magistrate/Trial Court concerned which may further be disbursed to the

injured as medical expenses.

The petition stands disposed of accordingly.

(GIRISH AGNIHOTRI)
JUDGE

13.07.2020
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Whether speaking/ reasoned:	Yes/No
Whether Reportable:	Yes/No