

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

(Proceedings conducted through video Conference)

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CRM-M-17537-2020 (O&M)

Date of decision: 25.08.2020

HARMANDAR SINGH

...Petitioner

Versus

STATE OF PUNJAB

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE REKHA MITTAL

Present : Ms. Nishi, Advocate for the petitioner.
Ms. Bhavna Gupta, DAG, Punjab.

REKHA MITTAL, J. (Oral)

The petitioner prays for grant of regular bail in FIR No.64 dated 24.06.2018 for offence punishable under Section 395 IPC, registered initially for offence under Section 379-B IPC read with Section 34 IPC and Section 25/27 of the Arms Act in Police Station Sadar, District Moga.

Counsel for the petitioner would argue that petitioner is in custody for the last about two years. It is further argued that in all other cases registered against the petitioner, he has been granted bail. It is prayed that since conclusion of trial is likely to take longer time due to Covid-19, petitioner may be released on bail.

Custody certificate of the petitioner received online is taken on record.

Counsel representing State of Punjab, by referring to various cases registered against the petitioner and reflected in the custody certificate, would argue that the petitioner does not deserve to be enlarged on bail. She would inform that in the instant case, prosecution has already completed its evidence and the case is pending for adducing evidence in defence by the petitioner.

Indisputably, the criminal trials are not progressing on account of Covid-19. The petitioner has been booked in many criminal cases referred to in the custody certificate. The prosecution has already closed its case and the same is pending for leading defence evidence.

In case the trial of case is not concluded within next three

months, petitioner shall be released on bail subject to his furnishing bail bonds to the satisfaction of trial Court. However, he shall not leave India without previous permission of the Court.

However, in case the Courts start functioning within next one or two months and petitioner does not close his defence evidence within the stipulated period of three months and keep the matter alive, he shall not be entitle to be released on bail.

Disposed of.

25.08.2020

(REKHA MITTAL)
JUDGE

ashok

Whether speaking/reasoned:
Whether reportable:

Yes / No
Yes / No