

In the High Court of Punjab and Haryana at Chandigarh

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CRM-M-18530-2020 (O & M)

Date of Decision: July 30, 2020

LOVEPREET SINGH @ LABHU

.....PETITIONER

VERSUS

STATE OF PUNJAB

....RESPONDENT

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ANUPINDER SINGH GREWAL

Present: Mr. Ranbir Singh Sekhon, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Dhruv Dayal, Senior DAG, Punjab.

ANUPINDER SINGH GREWAL, J (ORAL)

Heard through video conferencing.

The petitioner is seeking regular bail in FIR No.06 dated 06.02.2020, under Sections 457, 380 and 427 IPC (Sections 379-B, 324 and 323 IPC added later on), registered at Police Station Mallanwala, District Ferozepur.

Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that the petitioner is not named in the FIR wherein it is alleged that ATM machine containing about ₹13.00 lacs had been taken away. The petitioner was arraigned as an accused on the statement of co-accused Amandeep Singh, who was an employee of the bank. Similarly situated co-accused namely Lovepreet Singh @ Labhu and Kamaldeep Singh, who had also been named on the statement of co-accused Amandeep Singh, had been granted bail by the Coordinate Bench of this Court in CRM-M-13769-2020 and CRM-M-14203-2020 respectively on 16.06.2020. Co-accused Bhagwant Singh had been granted bail by this Court in CRM-M-12758-2020 on 10.07.2020. The petitioner is in custody for over 05 ½ months since his arrest on 14.02.2020.

Learned State counsel contends that the petitioner had conspired in the commission of the offence with the co-accused namely Amandeep Singh and, therefore, he is not entitled to the concession of regular bail. He upon instructions from ASI Sudesh Kumar states that none of the prosecution witness has been examined.

Heard through video conferencing.

In view of the submissions of learned counsel for the petitioner, especially when the aforementioned co-accused had been granted bail, the petitioner is in custody for over 05 ½ months, Covid 19 pandemic and the conclusion of the trial is likely to take some time, I deem it a fit case to grant the concession of regular bail to the petitioner.

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

(ANUPINDER SINGH GREWAL)
JUDGE

July 30, 2020

A.Kaundal

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