

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

CRM-M-22577-2020 (O&M)

Date of decision: 13.08.2020

Paramjeet Singh

... Petitioner

Vs.

State of Punjab

... Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE TEJINDER SINGH DHINDSA.

Present:- Mr. Kuldip Singh, Advocate for the petitioner.

....

TEJINDER SINGH DHINDSA, J.(ORAL).

Matter has been taken up through Video Conferencing via Webex facility in the light of the Pandemic Covid-19 situation and as per instructions.

Petitioner seeks concession of pre-arrest bail in case FIR No.67, dated 13.08.2018, under Section 61(1) of the Punjab Excise Act, 1914, registered at Police Station Vairoke, District Fazilka.

Counsel has been heard at length.

As per prosecution version, a raid was conducted on 13.08.2018 and 200 litres of lahan was recovered from the house of the petitioner.

It is the case projected on behalf of the petitioner that he was not present on the spot and as such no recovery has been made from his conscious possession.

This Court is not inclined to extend in favour of the petitioner the concession of pre-arrest bail.

Precise allegation is of the huge quantity of lahan having been

recovered from the house of the petitioner. The same is ordinarily used to distill illicit liquor. In the very recent past more than 120 people have lost their lives in the State of Punjab by way of consuming illicit liquor. This is a matter which requires a deep and thorough probe. The same may well entail custodial interrogation of the petitioner.

That apart, it would require notice that the bail application preferred by the petitioner was dismissed by the learned Additional Sessions Judge, Fazilka on 12.09.2018 (Annexure P-2). For a period of almost two years, petitioner has evaded the process of investigation.

For the reasons recorded above, prayer for grant of pre-arrest bail is declined.

Petition dismissed.

13.08.2020*harjeet***(TEJINDER SINGH DHINDSA)
JUDGE**

(i)	Whether speaking/reasoned?	Yes/No
(ii)	Whether reportable?	Yes/No