

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH

CRM-M-24616-2020

Date of Decision:-27.08.2020.

Sucha Singh

.....Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

.....Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY KUMAR

Present: Mr. Divjyot S. Sandhu, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Amar Ashok Pathak, Additional A.G., Punjab.

SANJAY KUMAR, J. (Oral)

The petitioner is the sole accused in FIR No.186 dated 09.08.2020 on the file of Police Station Sadar Kapurthala, District Kapurthala, registered under Section 61 (1) of the Punjab Excise Act, 1914. By way of this petition filed under Section 438 Cr.P.C, he seeks grant of anticipatory bail.

The petitioner is allegedly involved in the business of selling illicit liquor. Upon information received, a police party conducted a raid at his shop on 09.08.2020. The petitioner is stated to have escaped but while running away, he was identified by ASI Balbir Singh. The police found a plastic can containing 37500 ml. of illicit liquor in the shop.

Given these facts and the seriousness of the charge against the petitioner in relation to sale of illicit liquor, no grounds are made out to extend him the benefit of pre-arrest bail. The ill-effects of consumption of illicit liquor, resulting in manifold deaths, require that a strong signal be sent to those indulging in this illegal business. As the petitioner was identified at the spot by a police officer, he is *prima facie* shown to be involved and cannot be extended any benefit of doubt at this stage.

The petition is accordingly dismissed.

(SANJAY KUMAR)
JUDGE

August 27, 2020.

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Whether speaking/reasoned:-

Yes / No

Whether Reportable:-

Yes / No.