

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

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CRM-M No.26309 of 2020

Date of Decision: September 16th, 2020

Mandeep Singh @ Buri

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AUGUSTINE GEORGE MASI

Present: Ms. Harpreet Kaur, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. B.S. Sewak, Additional Advocate General, Punjab.

(PROCEEDINGS THROUGH V.C.)

AUGUSTINE GEORGE MASI, J. (ORAL)

Custody certificate of the petitioner received through email is taken on record.

Prayer in this petition is for grant of regular bail to the petitioner in FIR No.223 dated 03.12.2019 registered under Sections 379-B, 34 IPC at Police Station City Kotkapura, District Faridkot.

It is the contention of learned counsel for the petitioner that the petitioner is in custody for more than nine months as he was arrested on 12.12.2019. No recovery has been effected from the petitioner. Although the challan has been presented but the charge as yet has not been framed. There is no other case against the petitioner and, therefore, the concession of bail be granted to the petitioner, especially in the light of the fact that two of the co-accused of the petitioner, who were similarly placed namely Nirmal Singh alias Lalli and Ranjit Singh, have been granted the concession of regular bail by this Court in CRM-M No.8101 of 2020 and CRM-M No.10287 of 2020 on 09.09.2020.

Counsel for the State, on the other hand, contends that although the case of the petitioner is similar as the other co-accused, who have been granted the concession of bail, however, the petitioner be not granted the said

concession in the light of the increased number of snatching, which are taking place. He, therefore, prays that the present petition be dismissed.

I have considered the submissions made by the counsel for the parties and with their assistance, have gone through the records of the case. The prevailing circumstances are such that the trial in this case is not likely to conclude in near future, especially when the charge could not be framed. Petitioner is in custody for the last more than nine months, with the two similarly placed co-accused of the petitioner namely Nirmal Singh alias Lalli and Ranjit Singh having been granted the concession of bail by this Court vide order dated 09.09.2020, the present petition is allowed.

Petitioner is directed to be released on bail to the satisfaction of the trial Court/Chief Judicial Magistrate/Duty Magistrate, Faridkot.

Any observations made hereinabove are for the purpose of disposal of the present petition alone and shall have no bearing on the merit of the case during the trial in any manner.

September 16th, 2020
Puneet

(AUGUSTINE GEORGE MASIH)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned: Yes

Whether Reportable: No