

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT
CHANDIGARH
(Through Video Conferencing)**

CRM-M-30632-2020
Date of Decision: 10.12.2020

HARINDER SINGH @ BABBU

.....Petitioner

V/s.

STATE OF PUNJAB

.....Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE MANJARI NEHRU KAUL.

Present: Mr. Nandan Jindal, Advocate,
for the petitioner.

Mr. Bhavna Gupta, Deputy Advocate General, Punjab.

MANJARI NEHRU KAUL, J. (Oral)

Instant petition has been filed under Section 439 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 for grant of regular bail to the petitioner in case FIR No.150 dated 26.12.2019 registered under Sections 419, 420, 467, 468, 471 and 120B of Indian Penal Code, 1860 at Police Station, Mehta, District Amritsar.

Learned counsel for the petitioner has placed on record the compromise stated to have been effected between the parties during the pendency of trial.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the petitioner has been in custody since 06.01.2020 and till date only report under Section 173 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 has been presented before the Court concerned, hence, there is no likelihood of the trial concluding in the near future, more so, in view of the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. Hence, he may be extended the concession of regular bail.

Per contra, learned State counsel, on instruction from SI Baldev Singh, has submitted that the delay in the framing of the charges has been on account of the COVID-19 pandemic, however, they are likely to be framed on the next date of hearing i.e. 16.12.2020.

Heard.

In view of the submissions made by learned counsel for the petitioner and the fact that the petitioner has been in custody since 06.01.2020, the present petition is allowed and the petitioner is admitted to bail to the satisfaction of the trial Court/Duty Magistrate. However, it is made clear that anything observed hereinabove shall not be construed to be an expression of opinion on the merits of the case.

December 10, 2020

Ess Kay

**[MANJARI NEHRU KAUL]
JUDGE**

<i>Whether speaking / reasoned</i>	:	<i>Yes</i>	/	<i>No</i>
<i>Whether Reportable</i>	:	<i>Yes</i>	/	<i>No</i>