

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

CRM-M-51482-2019

Date of decision:-5.2.2020

Sant Lal

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Haryana

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE H.S.MADAAN

Present: Mr.R.S. Mamli, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Ms.Harpreet Kaur, AAG, Haryana.

Mr.Pratham Sethi, Advocate
for the complainant.

H.S. MADAAN, J.

This petition for regular bail has been filed by petitioner –
Sant Lal – an accused in FIR No.45 dated 18.1.2011, under Sections 396,
216, 420, 120-B, 412, 201, 302 IPC and 25 of Arms Act, registered at
Police Station Ratia.

As per the version of the prosecution on 18.1.2011, the
petitioner/accused Sant Lal along with his co-accused in pursuance of

conspiracy hatched between them had robbed Bhim Singh of Rs.22 lakhs on gun point and had committed his murder. Petitioner/accused could not be arrested and on 7.3.2019 he was declared a proclaimed offender. He was arrested on 23.7.2019 and since then he is behind bars. The petitioner had filed an application for regular bail in the Court of Sessions, which was declined by learned Sessions Judge, Fatehabad vide order dated 18.9.2019, as such, he has approached this Court with same request.

Notice of the petition was given to respondent – State and counsel representing the State has put in appearance. Learned counsel for the complainant has also put in appearance.

I have heard learned counsel for the parties besides going through the record.

Not only the allegations against the petitioner/accused Sant Lal are grave and serious but he has been on run and was declared a proclaimed offender vide order dated 7.3.2019. He was arrested on 23.7.2019. The trial against him is at a very advance stage of final arguments as stated by the State counsel. Therefore, no reason is there to grant regular bail to the petitioner keeping in view the gravity of the allegations against him as well as his past conduct of absconding and having been declared a proclaimed offender. The petitioner has got a long criminal record since as per list supplied by learned counsel for the complainant, he is shown to be involved in 10 other criminal cases, which include cases under various provisions of IPC including that of murder and under provisions of NDPS Act etc. In several cases, he is shown to have been acquitted, though convicted in few cases but the very fact that

he was booked in 10 criminal cases clearly speaks about his criminal tendencies. The apprehension expressed by the State counsel that if petitioner is granted bail, there is every likelihood to his absconding and even tampering with the prosecution evidence cannot be brushed aside lightly.

Therefore, finding no merit in the petition, the same stands dismissed.

5.2.2020
Brij

(H.S.MADAAN)
JUDGE

Whether reasoned/speaking : Yes/No

Whether reportable : Yes/No