

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

CRM-M-54298-2019 (O&M)

Date of decision: 27.02.2020

Sandeep Kumar Chhabra

... Petitioner

Vs.

State of Punjab

... Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARVIND SINGH SANGWAN

Present: Mr. K.S. Brar, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. M.S. Nagra, AAG, Punjab.

Mr. Vivek Sharma, Advocate
for the complainant.

ARVIND SINGH SANGWAN, J. (ORAL)

This is 2nd petition for grant of anticipatory bail in FIR No.16 dated 09.10.2019 under Sections 409, 420, 465, 467, 468, 471 IPC and Section 13(1) (a) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, registered at Police Station Vigilance Bureau Range, District Amritsar, earlier one was dismissed as withdrawn vide order dated 13.12.2019 with liberty to file afresh, after attaching the correct copy of FIR.

Vide order dated 19.12.2019, the petitioner was granted the concession of interim anticipatory bail by this Court.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that in pursuance of the aforesaid order, the petitioner has joined the investigation and is not required

for any further investigation. It is further submitted that while granting interim anticipatory bail to co-accused Veena, following order was passed on 29.11.2019 in CRM-M-50749-2019: -

“...Allegations in the FIR are that four teachers were employed by the National Model Middle School, Patti in the year 1985-1986. They all left their job somewhere in the year 2017-2018. Despite their having been no longer on the roll of the School, grant-in-aid was being received by the said School. It is alleged that the amount qua grant in aid deposited in the accounts of said Teachers, who had left job, was being withdrawn by Sunil Kumar Chhabra being Headmaster of the School. The petitioner being the Chairman of the Management Committee of the said School in connivance with co-accused Sunil Kumar Chhabra is alleged to have misappropriated the amount causing huge financial loss to the Government.

Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that at the time of appointment of said Teachers, Hakam Rai Chhabra, father-in-law of the petitioner was the Chairman of the Managing Committee, who unfortunately died on 17.10.1993. Thereafter, Ishwar Parkash became Chairman of Managing Committee. He also died on 07.5.1998. Thereafter, Sudhir Kumar took over as Chairman of the Committee. He died on 17.09.2014. Since then, the petitioner has been discharging the functions as Chairman of the Committee. It is stated that co-accused Sunil Kumar Chhabra is brother of the petitioner and that infact the School was being

run by said Sunil Kumar Chhabra and Sanjiv Kumar Manager.

The petitioner, who is 63 years old, has no direct role in the conduct of affairs of the School. She is ready and willing to cooperate with the investigation of the case....”

Learned State counsel, on instructions from Inspector Sharanjit Singh, has not disputed the factual position and states that the petitioner is no more required for any further investigation.

In view of the above, this petition is allowed and the interim bail granted to the petitioner vide order dated 19.12.2019 is made absolute subject to the conditions envisaged under Section 438 (2) Cr.P.C.

[ARVIND SINGH SANGWAN]
JUDGE

27.02.2020
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Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No

Whether Reportable : Yes/No