

08.12.2021
Sl. No.33
akd
[Rejected]

C. R. M. 5511 of 2021 [via video conferencing]

In Re: An application for bail under Section 439 of the Code of Criminal Procedure filed on 17.08.2021 in connection with Ghatal Police Station Case No. 116 of 2021 dated 08.04.2021 under Sections 467/471/473/419/420/406/409/120B/34 of the Indian Penal Code.

And

In Re: **Srimanta Das**

... .. Petitioner

Mr. Sekhar Kumar Basu .. Sr. Advocate

Mr. Subhabrata Chowdhury

... .. for the petitioner

Mr. Rudradipta Nandy

... .. for the State

It is submitted on behalf of the petitioner that he is in custody for about 190 days. It is further submitted that the petitioner has been falsely implicated in the instant case.

Learned advocate appearing for the State opposes the prayer for bail and submits that the petitioner being an employee of the State Bank of India, Ghatal Branch entered into a criminal conspiracy with one Gautam Banerjee and misappropriated over Rs. 18 crores from the bank dishonestly through electronic debit transactions. Prayer for bail of Gautam Banerjee had been turned down by a coordinate Bench of this court.

We have considered the materials on record prima facie disclosing involvement of the petitioner in the unauthorised debit transactions of over Rs.18 crores from the State Bank of India, Ghatal Branch. Allegations are very grave in nature and involve enormous volume of public money. In view of the gravity of the offence and the prima facie involvement of the petitioner in the alleged crime, we are not inclined to grant bail to the petitioner at this stage.

The application for bail is thus **rejected**.

(Bivas Pattanayak, J.)

(Joymalya Bagchi, J.)