

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

217

CRM-M-489-2021

Date of Decision:18.08.2021

HARSHIT BATHAM

...PETITIONER

VERSUS

STATE OF PUNJAB

...RESPONDENT

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUVIR SEHGAL

Present: Mr. Nikhil Batta, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Ramdeep Partap Singh, DAG, Punjab.

SUVIR SEHGAL, J.(ORAL)

Heard through video conferencing.

Through the instant petition under Section 438 of Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, the petitioner seeks anticipatory bail in case FIR No.140 dated 18.10.2020, registered under Sections 420, 465, 467, 468, 471 of IPC, 1860, at Police Station Julkan, District Patiala, Annexure P-1.

Counsel for the petitioner submits that there was no violation of the provisions of the Punjab Agricultural Produce Markets Act, 1961 at the time of sale of paddy as the sale neither took place in the market place nor the market yard.

Vide order dated 07.01.2021, while granting interim protection to the petitioner, this Court passed the following order:-

“The Court has been convened through video conferencing due to Covid-19 Pandemic.

Counsel for the petitioner has placed reliance on the order dated 01.12.2020 (Annexure P-4) passed by this Court in CRM-M-38886-2020, whereby co-accused - Amrik Singh was granted the concession of regular bail.

Notice of motion.

On asking of Court, Mr. Mehardeep Singh Dullat, Additional Advocate General, Punjab accepts notice on behalf of respondent-State.

List on 29.04.2021.

Meanwhile, the petitioner shall join the investigation and would come present as and when called for and in the event of arrest, he shall be admitted to interim bail on his furnishing personal and surety bonds to the satisfaction of Arresting Investigating Officer. He shall also abide by the conditions as specified under Section 438 (2) Cr.P.C. ”

Learned State counsel on instructions from ASI Karam Chand, states that the petitioner has joined the investigation, he is no longer required for custodial interrogation and there is no other criminal case pending against him.

In view of the said facts, without commenting on the merits of the case, the present petition is allowed and the order dated 07.01.2021 granting interim bail to the petitioner is made absolute, subject to the conditions laid down in Section 438(2) of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

18.08.2021
sheetal

(SUVIR SEHGAL)
JUDGE

Whether Speaking/Reasoned	Yes/No
Whether Reportable	Yes/No