

CRM-M-1598-2021

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

CRM-M-1598-2021

Date of decision:09.03.2021

Amritpal Singh

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

.....Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HARNARESH SINGH GILL

Present:- Ms. Satpreet Grewal Kapila, Advocate,
for the petitioner.

Mr. Ramandeep Sandhu, Sr. DAG, Punjab.

HARNARESH SINGH GILL, J. (ORAL)

Case is taken up for hearing through video conferencing.

Through this second petition, the petitioner seeks regular bail in case bearing FIR No.129 dated 21.10.2019, registered at Police Station Longowal, District Sangrur, under Sections 420, 467, 468, 471 and 120-B IPC.

Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that the petitioner has falsely been implicated in the present case; that the above-noted FIR had been registered against Ajai Kumar; that the petitioner was not named in the FIR and that he has been arraigned in the above-noted FIR during the investigation. It is further contended that the petitioner was not on duty during the period the driving licence of the complainant had been made, as would be deciphered from the copy of attendance register (Annexure P-4).

It is also contended that the petitioner himself moved a complaint to RTA,

CRM-M-1598-2021

Faridkot, against Ms. Amandeep Kaur, Data Entry Operator, on 12.08.2019 i.e. before the registration of the FIR, with the averments that the official ID issued to him had been mis-used by the latter during his absence. It is further contended that the whole process for applying for a driving licence is on-line and the petitioner had no role to play in the alleged offence. Moreover, the matter stands compromised with the complainant and main accused, Ajai Kumar and a petition for quashing of the FIR, on the basis of compromise, has been filed before this Court.

On the other hand, learned State counsel, while opposing the prayer made in the present petition, submits that the present petitioner alongwith co-accused had issued ante-dated fake driving licences by charging hefty amounts from the public at large. He also contends that the custodial interrogation of the petitioner is required.

I have heard the learned counsel for the parties and gone through the record.

It is the second petition filed by the petitioner, seeking anticipatory bail. The earlier petition i.e. CRM-M-18612-2020, filed by the petitioner, was dismissed as withdrawn on 14.07.2020.

As per the prosecution version, Ajay Kumar alias Bittu in connivance with the officials of DTO Office, Faridkot, duped him of an amount of Rs.50,000/-, which had been received from him for issuing the driving licence. However, the said driving licence had been found a fake one.

The petitioner was posted as Junior Assistant in the office of Regional Transport Authority, Faridkot. During the inquiry, it was found

CRM-M-1598-2021

that ATO Gurnam Singh and the petitioner had given certificate dated 16.11.2018 that all the backlogs of RC and driving licences had been issued by them by using their personal Ids and these entries had been made as per the rules. Learned Sessions Judge, Sangrur, while dismissing the bail application the petitioner, has noticed as under:

“6..... The applicant/accused joined in investigation on 10.12.2019 and specific questions were asked to him and he has admitted that he after making backlog entries and after scrutiny of driving licenses used to get his approval by presenting the file before ATO Gurnam Singh. He also admitted that the work of renewal of licenses cannot be done without using his ID. It is also clear from the police file that forged backlog entries were made by present applicant Amritpal Singh and Gurnam Singh, ATO by using their IDs. It is clear that all the admissions are made by the applicant/accused before the Investigating Officer under his signatures. The record further reveals that there are many complaints against the present applicant, due to which he was suspended vide letter dated 13.12.2019 issued by State Transport Commissioner, Punjab. It is also clear that case is based on documentary evidence and the applicant/accused has been arrayed as accused after conducting thorough investigation. So, it is clear that fake driving licenses were prepared by the applicant in back date in connivance with his co-accused ATO Gurnam Singh.”

Keeping in view the fact that to unearth the gang involved in preparing fake driving licences, the petitioner is required for custodial interrogation.

CRM-M-1598-2021

Therefore, finding no merit in the present petition, the same is dismissed.

09.03.2021
parveen kumar

(HARNARESH SINGH GILL)
JUDGE

Whether reasoned/speaking?	Yes/No
Whether reportable?	Yes/No