

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

205

CRM-M-1912-2020

Date of Decision: 22.07.2021

Balwant Singh @ Babla

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE GURVINDER SINGH GILL

Present: Mr. Rajesh Kumar Sharma, Advocate, for the petitioner.

Mr. R.S.Thind, DAG, Punjab,
assisted by ASI Meet Ram.

(proceedings conducted through video conferencing)

GURVINDER SINGH GILL, J. (Oral)

1. The petitioner has approached this Court seeking grant of anticipatory bail in respect of a case registered vide FIR No.0148 dated 13.12.2019 at Police Station Daba, District Ludhiana, under Section 7 of the Essential Commodities Act.
2. As per the FIR, a secret information was received by the police to the effect that LPG (domestic cooking gas) was being filled in small cylinders as well as in vehicles in an illegal manner. Upon receipt of said information, a raid was conducted at the disclosed place near Jassal Flour Mill and it was found that the gas was being filled from a domestic gas cylinder into a three-wheeler and the petitioner was standing nearby.

3. Learned counsel for the petitioner has submitted that no overt act was attributed to him and that in any case he has already joined investigation and challan stands presented.
4. On the other hand, learned State counsel has not disputed the fact that investigation has concluded and challan stands presented. It has also been informed that the petitioner is not involved in any other case.
5. Having regard to the facts and circumstances of the case especially that investigation has already concluded and challan stands presented, the petition merits acceptance and is hereby accepted. The interim directions issued by this Court vide order dated 16.01.2020 are hereby made absolute subject to the condition that the petitioner shall join investigation as and when called upon to do so and cooperate with the Investigating Officer and shall also abide by the conditions as provided under Section 438 (2) Cr.P.C.

22.07.2021

Vimal

(GURVINDER SINGH GILL)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned: **Yes/No**
Whether reportable: **Yes/No**