

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA AT
CHANDIGARH

210

CRM-M No.3777 of 2021
Date of decision:04.03.2021

Shinda Singh

... Petitioner

Vs.

State of Punjab

... Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUVIR SEHGAL

Present:- Mr. Naveen Bawa, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Harsimar Singh Sitta, AAG, Punjab.

SUVIR SEHGAL J. (ORAL)

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

Petitioner has filed this petition under Section 439 of Cr.P.C. for grant of regular bail in case FIR No.184, dated 02.10.2020 registered under Sections 420, 465, 467, 468, 471 and 120-B IPC, 1860, at Police Station Cantonment, District Amritsar.

Counsel for the petitioner submits that the allegation against the petitioner is that he alongwith accused Nos.19 to 27 used to collect the ECHS (Ex-Servicemen Contributory Health Scheme) Cards of veterans and after getting them photocopied, used to raise fake bills. He submits that the petitioner is no longer required for custodial interrogation as the challan against the petitioner stands presented. He has placed reliance upon orders dated 19.11.2020, 27.11.2020 and 21.12.2020, Annexures P-2 to P-4, whereby some of the co-accused have been granted interim anticipatory bail by this Court. He has further made

a reference to order dated 11.02.2021 passed in CRM-M-5340-2021 to submit that Parkash Kaur, who is accused No.22, has been ordered to be released on a regular bail. Counsel submits that the case of the petitioner is at par with that of the above mentioned accused.

Per contra, learned State counsel upon instructions from SI Narinder Kumar, has opposed the petition. He has submitted that the petitioner was one of the accused, who had participated in a big scam, whereby the Government Exchequer was defrauded of huge amount of money. He has filed custody certificate dated 04.03.2021, which is taken on record. As per his instructions, the challan against the petitioner has been presented on 21.01.2021, though the charges are yet to be framed and the proceedings are fixed before the trial court for today.

I have considered the rival submissions of the parties.

The case of the petitioner is at par with co-accused, Parkash Kaur, who has been granted concession of regular bail by this Court vide order dated 11.02.2021.

Keeping in view the nature of allegations, gravity of offence and the fact that the trial is likely to take time to conclude, no purpose would be served by keeping the petitioner behind the bars any further.

Without commenting anything on the merits of the case, the petition is allowed and the petitioner is ordered to be released on bail on furnishing bail/surety bonds to the satisfaction of the trial Court/Duty Magistrate.

04.03.2021

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(SUVIR SEHGAL)
JUDGE

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