

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

206-2

CRM-M-3949-2021 (O&M)
Date of decision: 14.09.2021

Manpreet Singh

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARVIND SINGH SANGWAN

Present:- Mr. Puneet Bali, Sr. Advocate with
Mr. Vibhav Jain, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Joginder Pal Ratra, DAG, Punjab.

Mr. Sourabh Goel, Senior Standing Counsel,
CBIC-Complainant.

(through video conferencing)

ARVIND SINGH SANGWAN, J. (Oral)

The petitioner prays for grant of anticipatory bail in FIR
No. 177 dated 26.12.2020, registered under Sections 420, 465, 467, 468,
471, 120-B of the IPC at Police Station Daresi, Ludhiana.

The operative part of the order dated 18.03.2021, vide which
the petitioner has been granted interim bail, is reproduced below:

“Mr. Puneet Bali, learned senior counsel appearing
on behalf of the petitioner in CRM-M-3949-2021, has
referred to the statement made by the petitioner-Manpreet
Singh, tendered before the Superintendent (Preventive),
Central GST Commissionerate, Ludhiana under Section
70 of Central Goods & Services Act, 2017, on 24.12.2020.
He submits that at the most, the allegation against the
petitioner is that he allowed Yashita Jain wife of Sahil Jain
to operate the bank locker on 12.11.2020 and that too in

good faith as Mr. Sahil Jain is a regular customer of the bank and had enough business with the bank. Since Yashita Jain has shown urgency so as to operate the bank locker, the petitioner allowed her to operate the bank account and, therefore, the allegation at the most against the petitioner is that he allowed her to operate bank against the RBI guidelines. The petitioner had no knowledge about the arrest of Sahil Jain. He was not beneficiary in any manner. However, the petitioner is ready to join the investigation and to cooperate with the investigation.

At this stage, Mr. Sourabh Goel, appearing on behalf of the complainant-CBIC, submits that custodial interrogation of the petitioner is required so as to unearth the fact that despite the fact that Sahil Jain was in custody, he has allowed the wife Yashita Jain to operate the bank locker.

Adjourned to 26.05.2021.”

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the petitioner, in pursuance to the order dated 18.03.2021, has already appeared before the SHO/Investigating Officer and has joined the investigation.

Learned counsel for the State, on instructions from SI Sumit Kaur, has not disputed the factual position and submits that the petitioner has joined the investigation and is no more required for any further investigation.

In view of the above, the petition is allowed and the interim bail granted to the petitioner, vide order dated 18.03.2021, is made absolute subject to the conditions envisaged under Section 438(2) Cr.P.C.

14.09.2021

Waseem Ansari

*Whether speaking/reasoned
Whether reportable*

(ARVIND SINGH SANGWAN)

JUDGE

*Yes/No
Yes/No*