

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH

CRM-M-5191-2021

DATE OF DECISION: FEBRUARY 9, 2021

SALONI SALUJA

...PETITIONER

VERSUS

STATE OF HARYANA

...RESPONDENT

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MANOJ BAJAJ.

PRESENT: MR. MANDEEP KAUSHIK, ADVOCATE
FOR THE PETITIONER.

KANWAR SANJIV KUMAR, AAG, HARYANA.

MANOJ BAJAJ, J.(ORAL)

Petitioner has filed this petition under Section 439 Cr.P.C. for grant of regular bail pending trial in case FIR No.0099 dated 16.2.2020, under Section 420, 506 IPC (Section 406, 467, 468, 471 IPC and Section 10 of Immigration Act added later on). The petitioner is in custody since her arrest on 21.6.2020.

The FIR was registered on the basis of enquiry conducted by the Economic Offences Wing on the complaint made by Kanwarjeet Singh and Simarjit Singh with the allegations that Vishal, Ravinder @ Binder, Saloni Saluja and Ramender have duped them worth lakhs of rupees on the pretext of sending them abroad.

Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that as per prosecution the complainant and another victim, namely, Kanwarjit Singh and Simarjit Singh had paid in all approximately ₹10 lakhs to the accused persons for sending them abroad. He submits that as per the allegations, a sum of ₹7,68,000/- was paid to the petitioner. Learned counsel contends

that later on petitioner transferred the said amount in the account of co-accused Ravinder through bank transactions (Annexures P-2 to P-4). According to him, the investigation of the case is complete and though the petitioner is involved in other cases, but she has been released on bail. The said orders are also appended with the petition. He prays that the petitioner be released on bail.

On the other hand, learned counsel for the State assisted by SI Balwant has opposed the aforesaid prayer on the ground that the petitioner has cheated various persons in the similar manner. However, it is not disputed that the investigation in the present case is complete and the charges have already been framed on 6.11.2020.

Considering the above background and the custody of the petitioner, this Court does not find any reason to decline the prayer, particularly, when investigation of the case is complete and the trial is likely to take considerable time to conclude, therefore, further custody of the petitioner may not be justified. The petitioner is presently confined in judicial custody since 21.6.2020 and is not required for any useful purpose.

Resultantly, without meaning any expression of opinion on the merits of the case, it is ordered that the petitioner be released on regular bail in the above case, subject to her furnishing requisite bail bonds/surety bonds to the satisfaction of the trial Court concerned.

The petition is allowed.

February 9, 2021
Gulati

(MANOJ BAJAJ)
JUDGE

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