

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

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CRM-M-6853-2021

Date of decision : 14.12.2021

Harpreet Singh and another

... Petitioners

Versus

State of Punjab

.. Respondent

CORAM :HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ANUPINDER SINGH GREWAL

Present:- Mr. Harsimran Aulakh, Advocate for
Mr. Pratham Sethi, Advocate for the petitioners.

Mrs. Amarjit Kaur Khurana, DAG, Punjab.

Anupinder Singh Grewal, J. (Oral)

The petitioners are seeking anticipatory bail in FIR No.7 dated 25.01.2021, under Sections 420, 467, 468, 471 and 120-B of the Indian Penal Code, 1860, registered at Police Station Qadian, District Gurdaspur (Batala).

Learned counsel for the petitioners contends that it is alleged in the FIR that the rice mill in which the petitioners are partners is selling rice under the label of another firm, as the licence of the petitioners' firm has been cancelled by Markfed. He also contends that the FIR has been hastily lodged and there are several errors which were sought to be corrected by the Senior Branch Officer, Markfed, as reflected in Annexure P5. It is also stated by the Senior Branch Officer, Markfed that the stickers of another mill were found in a loose condition and the stitching of stickers over the sacks had not been done. Learned counsel further contends that there is no allegation that recovered rice was sub-standard. He also contends that the petitioners are being implicated as their wives are contesting the municipal elections scheduled for 14.02.2021 on the ticket of the party in opposition.

This Court, by order dated 02.11.2021 had directed the petitioners to appear before the Investigating Officer and join investigation and in the event of their arrest, they were ordered to be released on ad-interim bail to the satisfaction of the Investigating/Arresting Officer, subject to the conditions envisaged under Section 438(2) Cr.P.C.

Learned State counsel, upon instructions from ASI Sharwan, states that the petitioners have joined investigation.

In view of the above and the petitioners having joined investigation, the Covid-19 Pandemic, the order dated 02.11.2021 granting interim bail to the petitioners is made absolute.

However, the petitioners shall abide by the conditions stipulated under Section 438(2) Cr.P.C. They shall also join investigation as and when called upon to do so.

The petition stands disposed of.

(ANUPINDER SINGH GREWAL)
JUDGE

December 14, 2021

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Whether speaking/reasoned	:	Yes/No
Whether Reportable	:	Yes/No