

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH

212

CRM-M-10159-2021

DATE OF DECISION: 27.08.2021

BALKAR SINGH

... Petitioner(s)

Versus

STATE OF PUNJAB AND ANOTHER

... Respondent(s)

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ANUPINDER SINGH GREWAL

Present: Mr. Arshdeep Singh Khaira, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Dhruv Dayal, Senior DAG, Punjab.

ANUPINDER SINGH GREWAL, J. (ORAL)

Heard through video conferencing.

The petitioner is seeking anticipatory bail in FIR No. 0572 dated 20.11.2014, under Section 135 of the Electricity Act, registered at Police Station Anti Power Theft, Verka, District Amritsar.

Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that the petitioner is a retired ex-serviceman having served in the Indian Army. The allegations against the petitioners are of electricity theft, as it is alleged that he was obtaining direct supply of electricity unauthorisedly for his dwelling unit. He also contends that the petitioner had been granted ad interim anticipatory bail earlier on the condition that he would deposit 50% of the disputed amount of ₹1,40,000/-, but due to financial difficulty he could not deposit the same and consequently the petition was dismissed. He further contends that financial condition of the petitioner is poor and in pursuance to the order dated 04.03.2021, the petitioner has deposited 25% of the amount due towards electricity charges.

This Court, by the order dated 04.03.2021, had directed the petitioner to appear before the Investigating Officer and join the investigation and in the event of his arrest, he was 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 Gurwinder Singh, states that the petitioner has joined investigation.

In view of the above and the petitioner having joined investigation, the order dated 04.03.2021 granting interim bail to the petitioner is made absolute.

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

The petition stands disposed of.

(ANUPINDER SINGH GREWAL)
JUDGE

27.08.2021.

SwarnjitS

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