

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

CRM-M- 18729-2021 (O&M)

Date of Decision: May 24, 2021

Satnam Singh alias Satta alias Pehalwan

... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

... Respondent

CORAM:- HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE JAISHREE THAKUR

Present:- Mr. B. S. Bhalla, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. H. S. Sitta, AAG, Punjab.

JAISHREE THAKUR, J. (Oral)

This is a petition that has been filed for grant of regular bail to the petitioner in case FIR No. 69 dated 26.04.2010 under Sections 395, 347, 506 IPC registered at Police Station Chheharta, District Amritsar.

Learned counsel for the petitioner would contend that the petitioner had been allowed bail vide order dated 30.07.2020 and in the said matter, the challan was presented on 21.12.2012 against eight accused persons in their absence and he being one of them was eventually declared as a proclaimed offender in the said FIR vide order dated 14.10.2013. But he got arrested in another FIR registered against him on 31.07.2015, however, was never produced before the Courts below under the earlier

FIR. It is only on 14.08.2019 when he has been formally arrested in FIR No. 69 dated 26.04.2010 that he came to know about his P.O. orders. It is contended that the petitioner is in custody since then and that the trial is likely to take some time to conclude, therefore, prayer is made for concession of regular bail to the petitioner.

Per contra, learned counsel appearing on behalf of respondent-State, on instructions from the Investigating Officer, opposes the grant of regular bail to the petitioner and does not dispute the facts as submitted above, while submitting that the custody certificate itself would reveal that there are several other FIRs pending against him and he has been convicted in some of them.

I have heard learned counsel for the parties.

Be that as it may, keeping in view the facts that the trial is likely to take some time to conclude, as owing to COVID-19 pandemic, no useful purpose would be served in keeping the petitioner behind bars. The instant petition is allowed and the petitioner is directed to be released on regular bail on execution of adequate personal/ surety bond to the satisfaction of concerned trial Court/Duty Magistrate. However, any observation made herein shall not be construed to be an expression on merits of the case.

24 May, 2021

seema

(JAISHREE THAKUR)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned
Whether reportable

Yes/No
Yes/No