

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

207

**CRM-M-20025-2021(O&M)
Decided on : 18.06.2021**

DEEPAK KUMAR

... Petitioner(s)

Versus

STATE OF PUNJAB

... Respondent(s)

CORAM: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE MANJARI NEHRU KAUL
(Through Video Conferencing)

PRESENT: Mr.Rajesh Kapila, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Luvinder Sofat, AAG Punjab
assisted by ASI Parkash Singh.

MANJARI NEHRU KAUL, J. (Oral)

The instant petition has been filed under Section 439 Cr.P.C. for grant of regular bail to the petitioner in case FIR No.280 dated 17.12.2018 under Sections 420, 406, 120-B of the IPC and Section 13 of Prevention of Human Smuggling Act, 2012 registered at Police Station Civil Lines Batala, District Batala.

Learned counsel submits that the petitioner has nothing to do with the crime in question as he was merely working as a salaried employee of M/s National Tour and Travel Agent owned by co-accused Suleman @ Sonu. It has been contended that a false version has been brought forth against him of duping as many as 58 persons on the pretext of procuring VISAs, Air tickets etc., by taking Rs.16 and a half lakhs (approximately) from them. Learned counsel further contends that the petitioner has been in custody since 22.02.2021 and there is no likelihood of the trial concluding any time in the near future as challan is yet to be presented.

Per contra, learned State counsel while opposing the prayer and submissions of the learned counsel for the petitioner on instructions from ASI Parkash Singh has submitted that the petitioner is a habitual offender as he is involved in other cases of similar nature, wherein, also he duped innocent persons of their hard-earned money on the pretext of sending them abroad.

Heard.

Prima faice, there are serious allegations levelled against the petitioner for which he is not entitled to the concession of bail.

Dismissed.

(MANJARI NEHRU KAUL)
JUDGE

June 18, 2021

S.Sharma(syr)

<i>Whether speaking/reasoned:</i>	<i>Yes/No</i>
<i>Whether Reportable:</i>	<i>Yes/No</i>