

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

CRM-M-20040-2021 (O&M)

Date of Decision:25.05.2021

Baljinder Singh

... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

... Respondent

CORAM:- HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE TEJINDER SINGH DHINDSA.

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

Mr. S.S. Cheema, AAG, Punjab.

....

TEJINDER SINGH DHINDSA, J. (ORAL).

Matter has been taken up through Video Conferencing via Webex facility in the light of the Pandemic Covid-19 situation and as per instructions.

Petitioner seeks regular bail pending trial in case FIR No.233, dated 01.12.2018, under Sections 406/420/120-B IPC and Section 24 of the Immigration Act, 1983, registered at Police Station Mattaur, District SAS Nagar, Mohali.

As per prosecution version, petitioner has duped the complainant of a sum of Rs.3,40,000/- approximately on the pretext of sending him to Canada on a work permit.

Petitioner has faced incarceration since 20.02.2019.

It has gone uncontroverted that investigation having been completed, challan has already been presented. Learned State counsel submits that charges were framed on 15.07.2019. Out of 12 prosecution witnesses cited, only one has been examined till date.

Trial, as such, would take time to conclude and particularly keeping in view the current Covid pandemic.

Mr. B.S. Sidhu, learned counsel had very fairly apprised the Court that the petitioner is involved in a total 68 FIRs on similar allegations and out of which, in 52 matters, petitioner has secured the concession of bail.

Be that as it may, keeping in view the length of incarceration already suffered by the petitioner in the present case and without commenting on the merits of the matter, petitioner is held entitled to the benefit of bail.

Petitioner be enlarged on bail subject to his furnishing bail/surety bonds to the satisfaction of the trial Court/Duty Magistrate, concerned. Petitioner be released from custody if not required in any other matter.

Disposed of.

25.05.2021

harjeet

**(TEJINDER SINGH DHINDSA)
JUDGE**

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| i) | Whether speaking/reasoned? | Yes/No |
| ii) | Whether reportable? | Yes/No |