

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

209

**CRM-M-20669-2021(O&M)
Decided on : 27.05.2021**

LEKH RAJ ALIAS LEKH SINGH ALIAS LEKHU BABA

... Petitioner(s)

Versus

STATE OF PUNJAB

... Respondent(s)

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

PRESENT: Mr. Rajan Singh Dadwal, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Luvinder Sofat, AAG Haryana
assisted by ASI Gurmail 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.108 dated 04.08.2020 under Section 420 the IPC and 61 of the Excise Act, registered at Police Station Sidhwan Bet, District Ludhiana (Rural).

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that false case has been planted upon him, which is evident from the fact that neither was he arrested at the spot nor any recovery effected from him of illicit liquor. It has been submitted that the petitioner has been in custody since 20.03.2021 and there is no likelihood of the trial concluding any time in the near future as challan has not been filed till date.

Per contra, learned State counsel while opposing the prayer and submissions of the learned counsel for the petitioner on instructions from ASI Gurmail Singh, has apprised the Court that there was a secret information received by the investigating agency wherein the petitioner and the co-accused were specifically named. Pursuant to the secret information

a raid was conducted at the disclosed place, however, the petitioner along with co-accused managed to flee from the spot. A huge recovery of 1,30,000 liters of lahan along with working still used for the distillation of illicit liquor and in addition to that 7500 bottles each weighing 750 ml of illicit liquor was effected from the place. Learned State counsel has further submitted that investigation is still under way. He has further apprised the Court that the petitioner is a man of criminal antecedents as he is involved in 03 other cases of similar nature. Hence, he may not be extended the concession of bail.

Heard.

Prima facie, there are serious allegations levelled against the petitioner in the FIR in question for which he does not deserve the concession of bail. Petition stands dismissed accordingly. However, it is made clear that anything observed hereinabove shall not be construed to be an expression of opinion on the merits of the case.

(MANJARI NEHRU KAUL)
JUDGE

May 27, 2021

S.Sharma(syr)

Whether speaking/reasoned: *Yes/No*

Whether Reportable: *Yes/No*