

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

213

**CRM-M-20242-2021
Date of decision: 02.08.2021**

Harwinder Singh

.....Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

.....Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARUN KUMAR TYAGI

Present : Mr. Ashish Verma, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. P.S. Walia, Asstt. A.G. Punjab
for the respondent-State.

ARUN KUMAR TYAGI, J. (ORAL)

(The case has been taken up for hearing through video conferencing.)

The petitioner has filed the present petition under Section 438 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 for grant of anticipatory bail in case FIR No. 59 dated 08.03.2021 registered under Sections 341, 323, 324, 506, 148 and 149 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 and Sections 25 of the Arms Act, 1959 to which Section 326 IPC was added later on at Police Station Civil Lines, Patiala.

Vide order dated 20.05.2021 the Co-ordinate Bench of this Court had, while issuing notice of motion, granted interim anticipatory bail to the petitioner with direction to join the investigation and relevant part of the above said order reads as under:

“The matter has been taken up through Videoconferencing on account of outbreak of pandemic COVID-19.

It is *inter alia* contended by the counsel for the petitioner that it is a case of version and cross version and the petitioner too has received injuries and has sought to

take refuge of MLR of the petitioner (Annexure P-2).

Notice of motion for 02.08.2021.

Meanwhile, in the event of arrest, the petitioner be released on interim bail to the satisfaction of arresting/Investigating Officer. The petitioner shall, however, join the investigation within a period of 15 days and he shall also abide by the conditions as envisaged under Section 438(2) Cr.P.C.”

The petition has been opposed by the learned State Counsel. However, no reply has been filed by the respondent-State.

I have heard learned Counsel for the petitioner and learned State Counsel and have gone through the record.

Learned Counsel for the petitioner has, while reiterating submissions made earlier, submitted that in compliance with order dated 20.05.2021, the petitioner has joined the investigation and he may be granted anticipatory bail as his custodial interrogation is not required in the case.

Learned State Counsel has vehemently opposed the petition and submitted that in view of gravity of accusation, the petitioner does not deserve grant of anticipatory bail. Therefore, the petition may be dismissed.

However, learned State Counsel has, on instructions from ASI Darshan Singh, acknowledged that in compliance with order dated 20.05.2021 passed by Co-ordinate Bench of this Court, the petitioner has joined the investigation and that his custodial interrogation is not required in the present case.

In view of the facts and circumstances of the case, nature of accusation against the petitioner, the fact that custodial interrogation

of the petitioner is not required in the case and there is no material to justify the apprehension of the petitioner fleeing from justice or tampering with evidence or criminally intimidating the prosecution witnesses, but without expressing any opinion on the merits of the case, I am of the considered view that the petitioner deserves the grant of anticipatory bail.

In view of the above, the petition is allowed and order dated 20.05.2021 granting interim bail to the petitioner is made absolute. However, the petitioner shall join the investigation again if and as and when called upon to do so and shall abide by the conditions enumerated in Section 438 (2) of the Cr.P.C., failing which the protection of anticipatory bail order shall not be available to him.

02.08.2021

Vishal

(ARUN KUMAR TYAGI)
JUDGE

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