

In the High Court of Punjab and Haryana at Chandigarh

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CRM-M-22768-2021 (O & M)

Date of Decision: June 29, 2021

JARNAIL SINGH

.....PETITIONER

VERSUS

STATE OF PUNJAB

....RESPONDENT

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ANUPINDER SINGH GREWAL

Present: Mr.Nitin Mittoo, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Dhruv Dayal, Senior DAG, Punjab.

ANUPINDER SINGH GREWAL, J (ORAL)

Case taken up through video conferencing.

The petitioner is seeking regular bail in FIR No.84 dated 22.03.2013, under Sections 21 of the Mines and Minerals Development and Regulations Act, 1957 ('Mines Act' - for short), registered at Police Station Phillaur, District Jalandhar.

Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that the petitioner was a driver of the truck where the sand after mining was being transported. He also contends that the petitioner had been released on bail but due to communication gap with his counsel, he could not present himself at the trial and was declared as a proclaimed person. He also contends that co-accused namely Gurpreet Singh had been convicted at the conclusion of the trial and fined ₹5000/-. The petitioner is in custody for over 02 months and is not involved in any other case under the Mines Act. He is a professional driver and a sole bread-winner of his family.

Learned State counsel contends that the petitioner was earlier declared as a proclaimed person and the co-accused has been convicted.

In view of the above, especially when the petitioner, who is a professional driver, is a sole bread-winner of his family, he is in custody for over 02 months, Covid 19 pandemic and the conclusion of the trial is likely to take some time, I deem it a fit case to grant the concession of regular bail to the petitioner.

Therefore, without expressing any opinion on the merits of the case, the petition is allowed. The petitioner is ordered to be released on regular bail on his furnishing requisite bonds to the satisfaction of the trial Court/Duty Magistrate concerned.

(ANUPINDER SINGH GREWAL)
JUDGE

June 29, 2021
A.Kaundal

Whether speaking/ reasoned	:	Yes/No
Whether Reportable	:	Yes/No