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

CRM-M-31928-2021

Date of decision : 10.12.2021

Sonu Kumar Ranjan

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Haryana

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VIKAS BAHL

Present: Mr. Munfaid Khan, Advocate for the petitioner.

Ms. Ambika Sood, Addl. A.G. Haryana.

VIKAS BAHL, J. (ORAL)

Prayer in the present petition is for grant of anticipatory bail to the petitioner in FIR No.179 dated 06.05.2021 registered under Sections 5/13(2), 17 of the Haryana Gauvansh Sanrakshan and Gausamvardhan Act, 2015 and Sections 11-59-60 of Animal Cruelty Act, 1960 and Sections 279, 336, 188, 120-B of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 at Police Station Ferozepur Jhirka, District Nuh.

On 25.08.2021, a Coordinate Bench of this Court was pleased to pass the following order:-

“The Court has been convened through video conferencing due to Covid-19 pandemic.

Status report by way of an affidavit of Deputy Superintendent of Police, Ferozepur Jhirka, District Nuh,

has been filed on behalf of the respondent-State, which is taken on record. A copy thereof, has been supplied to counsel for the petitioner.

By referring to status report, counsel for the petitioner submits that the petitioner has been arraigned as an accused on the basis of the disclosure statement of co-accused, Yusuf, who was arrested on the spot while transporting 28 cattle heads for slaughter. He submits that the petitioner, who has unblemished antecedents, has been nominated simply because he is the owner of the truck. It is his argument that statement of the co-accused recorded in the police custody, is not admissible in evidence. He submits that the petitioner is ready to join the investigation and cooperate with the investigating agency.

List on 10.12.2021.

Meanwhile, the petitioner shall join the investigation and would come present as and when called for and in the event of arrest, he shall be admitted to interim bail on his furnishing personal and surety bonds to the satisfaction of Arresting/Investigating Officer. He shall also abide by the conditions as specified under Section 438(2) Cr.P.C.”

Learned counsel for the petitioner has submitted that in pursuance of the abovesaid order dated 25.08.2021, the petitioner has joined the investigation.

Learned counsel for the State, on instructions from HC Surender, has submitted that the petitioner has joined the investigation and is not required for any further custodial interrogation.

Keeping in view the abovesaid facts and circumstances, moreso the facts which have been noticed in order dated 25.08.2021 and the fact that the petitioner has joined the investigation and is not required for any

further custodial interrogation, the present petition is allowed and the interim order dated 25.08.2021 is ordered to be made absolute.

However, nothing stated above shall be construed as an expression of opinion on the merits of the case and the trial would proceed independently of the observations made in the present case which are only for the purpose of adjudicating the present bail application.

10.12.2021

Pawan

**(VIKAS BAHL)
JUDGE**

Whether speaking/reasoned:-

Yes/No

Whether reportable:-

Yes/No