

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT  
CHANDIGARH

Criminal Misc.-M No.30847 of 2020  
Date of Decision: January 12, 2021

Saloni Saluja

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Haryana

...Respondent

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MANOJ BAJAJ**

Present: Mr. Mandeep Singh, Advocate,  
for the petitioner.

Mr. Sukhdeep Singh Parmar, DAG, Haryana.

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**MANOJ BAJAJ, J. (Oral)**

Petitioner has filed this petition under Section 439 Cr.P.C. for grant of regular bail, pending trial in case FIR No.201 dated 19.02.2020, under Section 10 Immigration Act, Sections 406, 420 IPC and Sections 467, 468 and 471 IPC (added later on), registered at Police Station, Thanesar, District Kurukshetra. The petitioner is in custody since her arrest on 28.06.2020.

As per the allegations in the FIR, complainant-Ravinder Kumar was induced to pay a huge amount for sending him and his wife abroad by way of study visa of Australia and the visa which was issued/delivered to the complainant and his wife was found fake/fabricated. On this, Rs.7,00,000/- was refunded to the complainant, but an amount of Rs.12,30,000/- was retained by the accused persons and a fraud was played

upon the complainant. On these broad allegations, the above FIR was registered.

Learned counsel for the petitioner has argued that the complainant had, in fact, approached the co-accused, namely, Ravinder Singh and Vishal Mann for facilitating work visa for him and his wife. According to him, in all, a sum of Rs.17,50,000/- was paid to the accused persons, including Rs.7,84,000/- in the account of the petitioner. He submits that the petitioner though is involved in other cases also, but in some of the cases she has been released on bail. He has contended that the investigation of the case is complete and, therefore, the further custody of the petitioner may not be necessary. He prays for grant of regular bail, during the pendency of the trial.

On the other hand, the prayer is opposed by the learned State counsel, assisted by SI Jai Singh, who has produced the custody certificate of the petitioner which contains the list of the cases pending against her. However, it is not disputed by him that the petitioner is on bail in some of the cases. He, on instructions, states that though the final report was filed on 04.08.2020, however, the charges are yet to be framed.

Considering the above background and the fact that the offences are triable by Magistrate and the conclusion of trial is likely to consume considerable time, particularly in the wake of outbreak of pandemic COVID-19 in the region, this Court does not find any reason to decline the prayer.

Resultantly, without meaning any expression of opinion on the merits of the case, the petition is allowed and it is ordered that the petitioner be released on regular bail subject to his furnishing requisite bail

bonds/surety bonds to the satisfaction of the trial Court/Duty Magistrate,  
  
Kurukshetra.

**January , 2021  
ramesh**

**( MANOJ BAJAJ )  
JUDGE**

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|----------------------------------|---------------|
| <b>Whether speaking/reasoned</b> | <b>Yes/No</b> |
| <b>Whether Reportable:</b>       | <b>Yes/No</b> |