

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

CRM-M-31578 of 2020

Date of Decision: 11.01.2021

Saloni Saluja

.....Petitioner

Versus

State of Haryana

.....Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HARINDER SINGH SIDHU

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

Mr. Rajneesh Chadwal, AAG, Haryana.

HARINDER SINGH SIDHU, J

Prayer is for grant of regular bail in case FIR No.0445 dated 17.05.2020 under Section 10 of Immigration Act and Sections 406,420 IPC (Sections 467,48,506 IPC added later on) registered at P.S Thanesar City, District Kurukshetra.

FIR was registered on the complaint of Shiv Kumar, who alleged that he has been cheated by Ravinder Kumar on the pretext of sending him abroad. It is alleged that said Ravinder Kumar, who is running his office in New Bus Stand in the name of New Direction, had met the complainant in June 2019 and assured to send him abroad. In July 2019, the complainant and his friends Rahul and Jagjit gave a sum of Rs.5 lacs in cash at his house where his wife, his father were also present. They told the complainant that within 4-5 months, he would be sent abroad. On the asking of Ravinder Kumar, an amount of Rs.12,47,000/- was deposited in the account of Rakesh Kumar through NEFT. Friend of the complainant also deposited a sum of Rs.50,000/- in account of co-accused Ravinder Kumar on 09.10.2010. Thereafter, the accused could not be contacted on

their mobiles. Even their family members did not disclose about their whereabouts. After some time, the petitioner called the complainant and stated that she is business partner of Ravinder Kumar and that their money would be given back, however, despite it, no amount was returned to the complainant.

Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that no amount was given to the petitioner, who is a licensed travel agent and that the petitioner is only alleged to have told the complainant that she is partner of Ravinder Kumar and the money would be returned to him. The petitioner is in custody since 25.06.2020.

Opposing the petition, the learned State counsel has submitted that as many as 18 FIRs have been registered against the petitioner out of which in three of the FIRs, the amount is alleged to have been received by the petitioner.

Without commenting anything on the merits of the case and also bearing in mind the fact that the trial is unlikely to conclude in the near future more so in the wake of outbreak of pandemic Covid-19, in my opinion, no useful purpose will be served by detaining the petitioner behind bars any further. The petition, as such, is accepted. The petitioner Saloni Saluja is ordered to be released on bail on her furnishing bail bonds/surety bonds to the satisfaction of learned trial Court/Chief Judicial Magistrate/Duty Magistrate concerned.

This present petition stands accepted accordingly.

January 11, 2021
manoj

(Harinder Singh Sidhu)
Judge

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