

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA

AT CHANDIGARH

Criminal Misc. No.M-34636 of 2020

Date of Decision: 18.02.2021

Sanjeev @ Buntty

...Petitioner(s)

Versus

State of Haryana

...Respondent(s)

CORAM:- HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HARI PAL VERMA

Present:- Mr. Balkar Singh, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Ms. Gaganpreet Kaur, AAG, Haryana.

HARI PAL VERMA, J. (Oral)

The matter has been taken up for hearing through video conferencing due to outbreak of COVID-19.

Prayer in the present petition filed under Section 439 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 is for grant of regular bail to the petitioner in case FIR No.126 dated 11.04.2020 under Sections 409, 420, 467, 468, 471, 120-B IPC and Sections 7 and 13 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 registered at Police Station Murthal, District Sonapat.

The aforesaid FIR was registered with the allegations of embezzlement of Gram Panchayat funds and transferring the same in the bank account of the accused.

Learned counsel for the petitioner has argued that the petitioner was arrested in the case on 28.04.2020, investigation is complete

and challan has been presented in the case, though charge has not yet been framed.

Learned State counsel does not dispute the custody of the petitioner, however, she submits that apart from the involvement of the petitioner in embezzlement of Rs.15,41,000/- in the present case, he is involved in four other cases of similar nature, though in two cases, he is on bail and therefore, he is not entitled for bail.

I have heard learned counsel for the parties.

Considering the fact that the petitioner is in custody since 28.04.2020 and offences in the case are triable by a Magistrate, coupled with the fact that trial is not likely to be concluded in near future, as charge has yet not been framed and Covid-19 pandemic has further affected the trial adversely, this Court deems it appropriate to admit the petitioner on regular bail.

Accordingly, the present petition is allowed and the petitioner is admitted on regular bail, subject to furnishing of his bail bonds/surety bonds to the satisfaction of trial Court.

However, it is made clear that the observations made hereinabove shall not be construed as expression of any opinion on the merits of the case.

February 18, 2021
AK

(HARI PAL VERMA)
JUDGE

Whether speaking / reasoned?

Yes / No

Whether reportable?

Yes / No