

101

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

CRM-M-39656-2021

Date of Decision: 23.09.2021

Mandeep Singh

.. Petitioner

Vs.

State of Punjab

..Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MANOJ BAJAJ

Present: Mr. Janak Singh Bhinder, Advocate for the petitioner.

...

Manoj Bajaj, J. (Oral)

This petition has been filed by the petitioner under Section 438 Code of Criminal Procedure for grant of anticipatory bail in case FIR No.0144 dated 30.09.2017 under Section 61 Punjab Excise Act, 1914 registered at Police Station Lehra, District Sangrur.

Learned counsel for the petitioner has argued that during the trial proceedings, the petitioner was on regular bail, but on account of his absence on 15.10.2019, his bail was cancelled and bonds were forfeited. He submits that the petitioner is willing to re-join the trial proceedings and prays for pre-arrest bail.

After hearing the learned counsel, this Court finds that the petitioner was well aware of the pendency of the trial, who never bothered to join the trial proceedings for a period of two years and had applied for anticipatory bail in February, 2021. The said application was declined on 19.02.2021 and after a gap of seven months, the petitioner has approached this Court. The above sequence of events clearly indicates that the petitioner is willfully not appearing before the Court and as he was on

regular bail, the present petition for grant of anticipatory bail would not be maintainable in view of the decision dated 04.04.2019 delivered by this Court in CRM-M No.15464 of 2019 (Balwant Singh @ Banta Versus State of Punjab).

Resultantly, the petition is dismissed.

23.09.2021
Jasmine Kaur

(MANOJ BAJAJ)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned	Yes	No
Whether reportable	Yes	No