

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

205

CRM-M-42482-2020

Date of Decision: 03.09.2021

Satwinder Singh ...Petitioner

Versus

State of Haryana ...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE GURVINDER SINGH GILL

Present: Mr. S.S.Momi, Advocate, for the petitioner.

Mr. Rajiv Sidhu, DAG, Haryana,
assisted by SI Mahipal.

(proceedings conducted through video conferencing)

GURVINDER SINGH GILL, J. (Oral)

1. The petitioner has approached this Court seeking grant of anticipatory bail in respect of a case registered against him vide FIR No.309 dated 21.11.2020 at Police Station Krishana Gate, Thanesar, under Section 420 IPC and Sections 7-10-55 of the Essential Commodities Act.
2. At the time of issuance of notice of motion on 17.12.2020, the following order was passed:

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

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the stock lying in the premises of the petitioner-Mill was subject to physical verification and no deficiency was found therein. He further submits that as provided under Sections 3 & 4 of the Farmers Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2020, there is no bar to purchase paddy, from other States.

Notice of motion.

At this stage, Mr. Bhupender Singh, D.A.G., Haryana, has put in appearance and accepts notice on behalf of the respondent-State and submits that the petitioner has purchased paddy from other States at lower rate, so as to save purchase tax and market fee. He seeks time to file reply.

On his request, adjourned to 16.02.2021.

Till next date of hearing, arrest of the petitioner shall remain stayed.”

3. On the next date i.e. 16.02.2021, this Court granted ad-interim bail to the petitioner.
4. Learned State counsel upon instructions has informed that pursuant to interim directions issued by this Court on 16.02.2021, the petitioner has since joined investigation and is not required for any custodial interrogation and that he is not wanted in any other case.
5. Having regard to the nature of allegations and the fact that the petitioner has already joined investigation, his custodial interrogation is not warranted. The petition, as such, is accepted and the interim directions issued by this Court vide order dated 16.02.2021 are hereby made absolute subject to the condition that the petitioner shall join investigation as and when called upon to do so and cooperate with the Investigating Officer and shall also abide by the conditions as provided under Section 438 (2) Cr.P.C.

03.09.2021

Vimal

(GURVINDER SINGH GILL)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned: **Yes/No**
Whether reportable: **Yes/No**