

**In the High Court for the States of Punjab and Haryana
At Chandigarh**

CRM-M-48271-2021 (O&M)
Date of Decision:-17.11.2021

Rohit ... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab ... Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE GURVINDER SINGH GILL

Present:- Mr. Shivam Malhotra, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Harbir Sandhu, AAG, Punjab.

GURVINDER SINGH GILL, J.(Oral)

1. The petitioner has approached this Court seeking grant of anticipatory bail apprehending his arrest as non-bailable warrants have been issued by the Trial Court consequent upon absence of the petitioner.
2. It is a case where the petitioner as well as his co-accused had been released on bail but the matter had not been taken up during the period when Courts had been functioning restrictively on account of spread of pandemic COVID-19. However, subsequently when the Trial Court issued summons/bailable warrants/non-bailable warrants, the co-accused had put in appearance but the petitioner did not appear despite the fact that he had also been served at one stage.

3. Learned counsel for the petitioner has submitted that it was mainly on account of scare due to spread of pandemic COVID-19 that the petitioner was prevented for causing appearance and that he had no intention to flee from justice.
4. I have considered the aforesaid submissions.
5. Notice of motion.
6. At this stage, Mr. Harbir Sandhu, AAG, Punjab, upon whom an advance copy of petition had already been served accepts notice on behalf of the respondent-State.
7. Having regard to the nature of case, this Court does not deem the necessity for any reply from the State.
8. The petition is disposed off with a direction that in case, the petitioner appears before the Trial Court within a period of 10 days from today, the Trial Court shall release the petitioner on bail subject to his furnishing bail bonds/surety bonds to its satisfaction.
9. However, the petitioner is directed to deposit an amount of ₹10,000/- as costs before the Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, Hoshiarpur within a period of one month from today.

17.11.2021

pankaj

**(Gurvinder Singh Gill)
Judge**

Whether speaking /reasoned

Yes / No

Whether Reportable

Yes / No