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

CRM-M-6997-2022

Date of Decision: 20.04.2022

Lovepreet Singh

.....Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

.....Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JASJIT SINGH BEDI

Present: Mr. Karamjit Singh Mangat, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Sandeep Singh Deol, DAG, Punjab.

JASJIT SINGH BEDI, J.(Oral)

The present petition has been filed under Section 439 Cr.P.C. for the grant of regular bail to the petitioner in case FIR No.156 dated 25.07.2021, registered under Sections 379-B and 34 IPC at Police Station Goindwal Sahib, District Tarn Taran Sahib.

2. The brief facts of the case are that the petitioner along with his co-accused Baljeet Singh snatched the purse of the complainant- Sandeep Kaur while she was returning home from her boutique on 25.07.2021. Pursuant to the registration of the FIR, the petitioner and his accomplice were apprehended riding on the same motorcycle and the snatched purse with the belongings of the complainant including a mobile phone, driving licence and cash were recovered from the accused.

3. The learned counsel for the petitioner contends that the petitioner is a first-time offender and has been in custody since 25.07.2021. He is a labourer and belongs to a poor family and is a sole bread-earner of his family. He contends that the investigation is complete and none of the 15 prosecution witnesses have been examined till date.

4. The learned State counsel has placed on record the custody certificate of the petitioner states that in the present case, the status report may not be required as the challan already stands submitted and a perusal of the custody certificate itself would reveal that there is no other case against the petitioner. He however, submits that the petitioner is involved in a serious offence having snatched the purse of the complainant and therefore, he does not deserves the concession of regular bail.

5. I have heard the rival contentions of both the parties.

6. Admittedly, the petitioner is a first-time offender. He has been in custody since 25.07.2021 and has undergone total custody period of more than 08 months. Fifteen prosecution witnesses are yet to be examined.

7. Keeping in view the aforementioned facts, no useful purpose shall be served in keeping the petitioner incarcerated, moreso, when the trial is not likely to be concluded in the near future. As such, the further incarceration of the petitioner is not required.

8. Thus, without advertng to the merits of the case lest it prejudices either side, I deem it appropriate to enlarge the petitioner on regular bail.

9. Accordingly, the present petition is allowed. The petitioner is ordered to be released on bail, subject to his furnishing adequate bail bonds/surety bonds to the satisfaction of the trial Court/Duty Magistrate, concerned.
10. Nothing expressed hereinabove would be construed to be an expression of any opinion on the merits of the case.

(JASJIT SINGH BEDI)
JUDGE

20.04.2022
JITESH

Whether speaking/reasoned	Yes/No
Whether reportable	Yes/No