

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

CRM-M-16832-2022

Date of decision: 02.09.2022

Gurcharan Singh

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

.....Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HARNARESH SINGH GILL

Present:- Mr. Manjit Singh Uppal, Advocate,
for the petitioner.

Mr. Subhash Godara, Addl. A. G. Punjab.

HARNARESH SINGH GILL, J. (ORAL)

Through this second petition, the petitioner seeks regular bail in case bearing FIR No.54 dated 01.04.2021, registered at Police Station City-2 Mansa, District Mansa, under Sections 420, 465, 467, 468, 471 and 120-B IPC.

Status report dated 25.08.2022, by way of affidavit of the Deputy Superintendent of Police, Sub Division Mansa, filed in the Registry, is taken on record.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that complainant-Leela Singh and other material witnesses i.e. Amritpal Singh and Kamaldeep Singh, while appearing into the witness-box as PW 1 to PW 3, respectively, have not supported the prosecution version and have been declared hostile. The petitioner has been in custody since 19.05.2021. On this premise, learned counsel prays that the petitioner be released on bail.

On the other hand, learned State counsel, while opposing the grant of bail to the petitioner, submits that the petitioner along with co-

accused had duped 11 youth of Rs.77 lakh on the pretext of providing them govt. jobs. However, he does not dispute the fact that the complainant (PW 1) and other material witnesses i.e. Amritpal Singh (PW 2) and Kamaldeep Singh (PW 3) have not supported the prosecution version.

I have heard the learned counsel for the parties.

Three material witnesses, including the complainant, while appearing before the trial Court as PW 1 to PW3, have not supported the prosecution version and have been declared hostile. The petitioner has been in custody since 19.05.2021. Out of 15 prosecution witnesses, 09 witnesses are yet to be examined. Trial is unlikely to conclude any time soon. Therefore, no useful purpose would be served by keeping the petitioner behind the bars.

In view of the above, without commenting anything on the merits, lest it should prejudice the case of either side, the present petition is allowed and the petitioner is ordered to be released on bail on his furnishing bail and surety bonds to the satisfaction of the learned trial Court/Duty Magistrate.

02.09.2022

parveen kumar

(HARNARESH SINGH GILL)
JUDGE

Whether reasoned/speaking?
Whether reportable?

Yes/No
Yes/No