

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

CRM-M-21950 of 2022 (O&M)

DECIDED ON: 25th May, 2022

Vikas Sharma

.....PETITIONER

VERSUS

State of Haryana

.....RESPONDENT

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AVNEESH JHINGAN.

Present: Mr. Pankaj Bali, Advocate for petitioner.

Ms. Geeta Sharma, DAG Haryana.

AVNEESH JHINGAN, J (ORAL)

Petitioner is seeking regular bail in case of FIR No 150 dated 14.3.2022, under sections 7, 7-A of Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, registered at Police Station Civil Lines, Karnal, District Karnal.

As per the case set up, an information was received of corruption being done in the office of Municipal Corporation, Karnal. It revealed that Deepak Kingar, S.E. (Superintendent Engineer) was looking after the work of Municipal Corporation as well as the Smart City Project and he was accepting bribe money from the contractors. CCTV footage and audio recording of the devices installed in the office were taken in possession. Approximately Rs. 17,00,000/- was recovered at the instance of S.E. The petitioner was working as Private Assistant of the S.E.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that there was no recovery from the petitioner and he is in custody since 15th March, 2022, investigation is complete. There is no proof of any demand or acceptance of illegal gratification by the petitioner.

Learned State counsel opposes the prayer and on instructions submits that no recovery was made from petitioner.

Without commenting upon the merits of the case, having conspectus of the fact and that though investigation is complete conclusion of trial is likely to take time, bail is granted to the petitioner on furnishing surety bonds to the satisfaction of the Chief Judicial Magistrate/ Duty Magistrate concerned.

The petition is allowed.

It is clarified that the observations made hereinabove shall not be construed as an expression of opinion on the merits of the case.

Since the main case has been decided, the pending application, if any is rendered infructuous.

(AVNEESH JHINGAN)
JUDGE

25th May, 2022
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<i>Whether speaking/reasoned</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Whether reportable</i>	<i>No</i>