

213 IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

CRM-M-28743-2022 (O&M)
Date of Decision: 25th August, 2022

Meenu

Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AVNEESH JHINGAN

Present: Mr. Vipin Mahajan, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Sandeep Kumar, Deputy Advocate General, Punjab.

AVNEESH JHINGAN, J (Oral):

This petition under Section 439 of the Code of Criminal Procedure is filed seeking regular bail in FIR No.01 dated 24.3.2022 under Sections 7, 7A of Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 as amended by PC (Amendment) Act, 2018 registered at Police Station Vigilance Bureau Range, Jalandhar.

As per the case set up, an FIR was registered at the instance of complainant-Surinder Kumar. It was alleged that Meenu (petitioner) assured the complainant that she can arrange Government job for daughter of the complainant in Deputy Commissioner Office, Jalandhar. She demanded Rs. 3.50 lakhs but in total Rs. 4,80,000/- were paid to the petitioner. Neither needful was done nor the amount was refunded.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that money transaction was camouflaged as criminal act. The petitioner had received Rs. 2.60 lakhs in her bank account. In order to show her *bona fides*,

Rs. 2.60 lakhs has been deposited in the Trial Court subject to the outcome of the trial. The petitioner is in custody since 24.3.2022 and is not involved in any other case.

Learned State counsel opposes the prayer for grant of bail and on instructions from SI Jagiri Lal submits that the complainant was duped of his hard earned money.

Without commenting on the merits of the case and considering that there are allegations and counter allegations with regard to the nature of transactions, the petitioner is in custody since 24.3.2022, though the investigation is complete conclusion of trial is likely to take time, she has no criminal antecedents and *prima facie* to show her bonafides, she has deposited Rs. 2.60 lakhs with the Trial Court, the petitioner is granted bail subject to her furnishing bail bonds to the satisfaction of the Chief Judicial Magistrate/ Duty Magistrate concerned.

The petition is allowed.

The amount of Rs. 2.60 lakhs deposited by the petitioner with the Trial Court shall be kept in an FDR in a nationalized bank and the deposit is subject to outcome of the trial.

It is clarified that 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 August, 2022
anuradha

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| 1. Whether speaking/ reasoned | : | Yes / No |
| 2. Whether reportable | : | Yes / No |