

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT
CHANDIGARH

CRM-M-31678 of 2022 (&M)

Date of Decision: 27th July, 2022

Teja Singh @ Teja Singh Samundari

... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

... Respondent

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AVNEESH JHINGAN

Present : Mr. S. S. Salar, Advocate for the petitioner.
Mr. Sandeep Kumar, DAG, Punjab.

AVNEESH JHINGAN , J.(Oral)

This petition under Section 439 Cr.P.C. is filed seeking regular bail in FIR No. 7 dated 24.5.2022, under Sections 409, 420, 465, 467, 468, 471 IPC and Sections 13(1)(a) read with Section 13(2) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 registered at Police Station Vigilance Bureau, Range Ferozepur.

As per the allegations, the petitioner was posted as Village Development Officer-cum- Panchayat Secretary in village Bahona. In the year 2015, panchayat funds to the tune of Rs.3,21,000/- were embezzled by withdrawing the payments through fifteen different cheques.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that there is delay in lodging the FIR. The allegations are of 2015 whereas the FIR was registered in May, 2022. He further submits that all the co-accused named in the complaint have been found innocent. The contention is that no recovery was made from the petitioner and it is a case of false implication. He further submits that money was spent for development work.

Learned counsel for the State on instructions from ASI-Surinder Pal Singh opposes the prayer for grant of bail. He submits that public money was siphoned off. He further submits that three enquiries were held before registering the FIR.

Without commenting on the merits of the case, considering the

nature of allegations, as also the case is primarily set up on the basis of documentary evidence, as on date no recovery is to be made from the petitioner, conclusion of investigation and trial is likely to take time, the petitioner is granted bail subject to his furnishing bail bonds to the satisfaction of the Chief Judicial Magistrate/ Duty Magistrate concerned.

The petition is allowed.

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

(AVNEESH JHINGAN)
JUDGE

27th July, 2022
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Whether reasoned/speaking	Yes
Whether reportable	No