

CRM-M-34497-2022

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

CRM-M-34497-2022

Date of decision:05.08.2022

Daljit Singh

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

.....Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HARNARESH SINGH GILL

Present:- Mr. Sandeep Wadhawan, Advocate,
for the petitioner.

HARNARESH SINGH GILL, J. (ORAL)

Through this petition, the petitioner seeks anticipatory bail in case bearing FIR No.77 dated 03.07.2022, registered at Police Station City Nakodar, District Jalandhar Rural, under Sections 409, 420 and 380 IPC.

Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that a team comprising of 10 officials of the department, was constituted for conducting inquiry qua the shortage of wheat; that the petitioner joined the inquiry proceedings and brought to the notice of the members of the team that the wheat had been stored at Panesar open plinth and other two centres from the years 2013 to 2017; that the wheat had never been shifted from the godown; that due to flour formation in the wheat and installation of the fans, the shortage might have occurred, and that the petitioner is ready to make good the shortage of 6043.1 quintal of wheat.

I have heard the learned counsel for the petitioner and gone through the record.

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As per the case of the prosecution, it has been found during physical verification that there is a shortage of 6043.1 quintal of wheat lying in the godowns. The team comprising of 10 officials of the Department of Food and Supplies, had conducted the inquiry. As per the inquiry report, the petitioner was called to join the inquiry, but initially, he had absented himself whereas co-accused Sukhjinder Pal came at the spot and stated that he was concerned only with the work of distribution at Nakodar Centre and the entire work of storage and dispatch of wheat had been undertaken by the petitioner. However, the petitioner came present in the office of Circle Office, Jalandhar, on 30.06.2022, and with regard to his absence on 29.06.2022, he had tendered the apology. During inquiry, the petitioner stated that he had been posted at P.R. Centre Nakodar since 2013 and he was having the charge of P.R.Distribution; that the wheat had been stored at Panesar open plinth Centre, from 2013 to 2017, under his control, and from 2018 till date, it has been stored at Panesar open Plinth and two other centres. As per the detailed inspection conducted by the team, there is a shortage of 6043.1 quintal of wheat.

There are specific allegations against the petitioner that he was the incharge of the pointed godown, at the relevant time, where shortage of 6043.1 quintal of wheat, was detected. The petitioner has caused a huge loss to the govt. exchequer, by misappropriating 6043.1 quintal of wheat.

Taking into consideration the serious allegations levelled against the petitioner, this Court finds that the petitioner is required for custodial interrogation to unearth the fraud.

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Therefore, finding no merit in the present petition, the same is dismissed.

05.08.2022
parveen kumar

(HARNARESH SINGH GILL)
JUDGE

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