

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

CRM-M-34705-2022

Date of Decision: 21.11.2022

Pankaj

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Haryana

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE GURVINDER SINGH GILL

Present: Mr. Aman Pal, Advocate, for the petitioner.

Mr. Rajiv Sidhu, DAG, Haryana.

GURVINDER SINGH GILL, J. (Oral)

1. The petitioner seeks grant of regular bail in respect of a case registered against him vide FIR No.33 dated 21.01.2022 at Police Station City Kaithal, District Kaithal, under Sections 406/409/420/467/468/471/120-B IPC.
2. The FIR was lodged at the instance of Naresh Kumar, Branch Manager, Central Bank of India, Kaithal, wherein it has been alleged that a crop loan to the tune of Rs.8 lakhs had been advanced to Kuldeep Singh, but later it was revealed that forged and fabricated revenue documents had been furnished for the purpose of advancing the said loan.
3. Learned counsel for the petitioner has submitted that the petitioner has falsely been implicated in the instant case and that he is not the beneficiary and the only allegation leveled against him is that he had introduced the prospective loanees to the Bank Manager. It has also been

submitted that the petitioner already stands released in 7 other identical cases.

4. Opposing the petition, learned State counsel has submitted that since the petitioner himself introduced the prospective loanees, he cannot feign ignorance about the documents being forged and as such, his complicity is clearly evident. Learned State counsel has, however, informed that the petitioner as on date has been behind bars since the last more than 6 months and that he stands involved in 11 other cases. It has also been informed that although challan has been presented, but charges are yet to be framed and as many as 18 PWs have been cited.
5. This Court has considered rival submissions.
6. Without commenting anything as regards the merits of the case, but while noticing that the petitioner has been behind bars for a substantial period of more than 6 months and that the trial has not even commenced till date inasmuch as even the charges have not been framed so far and as many as 18 PWs have been cited, further detention of the petitioner will not serve any useful purpose as the conclusion of trial will take some time. The petition, as such, is accepted and the petitioner is ordered to be released on regular bail on his furnishing bail bonds/surety bonds to the satisfaction of learned trial Court/Chief Judicial Magistrate/Duty Magistrate concerned.

21.11.2022

Vimal

(GURVINDER SINGH GILL)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned: **Yes/No**
Whether reportable: **Yes/No**