

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

Sr. No. 207a

CRM-M-38256-2020

Date of decision : 17.2.2022

KUNAL MEHTA

.....Petitioner

VERSUS

STATE OF PUNJAB

..... Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE DEEPAK SIBAL

Present: Mr. Munish Behl, Advocate for
Mr.VK Kaushal, Advocate for the petitioner
Ms.Gunkirat Kaur, AAG, Punjab
Mr.Veneet Sharma, Advocate for the complainant

DEEPAK SIBAL, J. (ORAL)

Through the present petition filed under Section 438 Cr.P.C. the petitioner seeks anticipatory bail in FIR No.156 dated 19.09.2020 under Section 380 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 registered at Police Station Division E, District Amritsar.

On 11.1.2021, this Court had passed the following order: -

“Heard through video conferencing.

Status report has been filed. The learned counsel for the State has pointed out that the petitioner has specifically been named in the FIR and has been evading arrest since the registration of the FIR.

The learned counsel for the petitioner would contend that besides there being a delay of six months in lodging the FIR, the petitioner prior to lodging of the FIR had been called for investigation and had attended on each date when he was called and had been fully cooperating with the Investigating Officer. The learned counsel further contends that

the co-accused has already been granted interim protection by this Court and he seeks parity.

List on 22.02.2021.

Meanwhile, the petitioner is directed to join investigation as and when called for. In the event of arrest, the petitioner shall be admitted to interim bail on furnishing adequate surety and personal bonds to the satisfaction of the Arresting Officer. The petitioner shall abide by all the terms and conditions as specified in Section 438(2) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973.

To be heard with CRM-M-36585-2020.”

Learned State counsel submits that in pursuance to the afore quoted order the petitioner has joined the investigation on several occasions.

Learned counsel for the complainant opposes the present petition. However, for the reasons given in the afore quoted order as also because the petitioner has joined the investigation process on a number of occasions and thus shown his bonafides, this Court is of the opinion that the ad interim anticipatory bail granted to the petitioner through the order of this Court dated 11.1.2021 be made absolute and it is so ordered.

17.2.2022
gsv

[DEEPAK SIBAL]
JUDGE

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