

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

CRM-M-40670-2022 (O&M)
Date of Decision:- 20.9.2022

Sarabjit Singh @ Luchi

... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

... Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE GURVINDER SINGH GILL

Present:- Mr. Kulwinder Singh, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Siddharth Attri, AAG, Punjab,
assisted by ASI Bikramjit Singh.

GURVINDER SINGH GILL, J. (Oral)

1. The petitioner seeks grant of anticipatory bail in a case registered against him vide FIR No. 46 dated 1.3.2022 under Section 61 of the Punjab Excise Act, 1914 at Police Station City-1, Mansa, District Mansa.
2. The allegations, in nutshell, are that the police received secret information on 1.3.2022 to the effect that the petitioner indulges in sale of liquor in the State of Punjab after procuring the same from State of Haryana at lower rates.
3. Pursuant to receipt of said information, a raid was conducted at the house of the petitioner from where 27 bottles (quarters) of illicit liquor were recovered. However, the petitioner is stated to have escaped from the spot.
4. The learned counsel for the petitioner has submitted that he has been involved falsely in the present case and that it is highly unlikely that the petitioner would have escaped from the spot despite the fact that the police

had prior secret information and was fully prepared at the time of conducting the raid.

5. On the other hand, the learned State counsel has submitted that the petitioner is a habitual offender, having been involved in a dozen cases previously, though he stands acquitted in two of them.
6. This Court has considered rival submissions addressed before this Court.
7. Having regard to the facts and circumstances of the case, the instant petition is disposed off with a direction that in case the petitioner surrenders before the trial Court and applies for grant of regular bail, the learned trial Court shall endeavour to dispose of the same expeditiously, preferably within a period of 3-4 days of filing of such application.

20.9.2022

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(Gurvinder Singh Gill)
Judge

Whether speaking /reasoned

Yes / No

Whether Reportable

Yes / No