

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

CRM-M-43007-2022

Date of Decision: 22nd September, 2022

Rajinder Singh

... Petitioner

Versus

State of Haryana

... Respondent

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AVNEESH JHINGAN

Present : Mr. Pankaj Bali, Advocate for the petitioner.
Ms. Geeta Sharma, DAG, Haryana.

AVNEESH JHINGAN , J.(Oral)

Petitioner is seeking regular bail in case of FIR No.15 dated 21.6.2022 under Sections 7, 7A, 13(1)(B), 13(2) of Prevention of Corruption Act read with Section 384, 120-B IPC, registered at P.S.SVB, Karnal.

As per the case set up, the complainant-Ratan Singh alleged that the petitioner while posted as Patwari demanded Rs. 50,000/- for sanctioning the mutation. The deal was struck for Rs. 35,000/-. Rs. 10,000/- was paid. On the complaint, a trap was laid, the petitioner was apprehended red handed and laced currency notes worth Rs. 30,000/- were recovered from him.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the petitioner is in custody since 21.6.2022 and he is not involved in any other case. He submits that mutation had already been sanctioned before the trap was laid.

Learned State counsel opposes the prayer and on instructions fairly submits that the investigation is complete and challan stands presented. She further submits that petitioner was apprehended on the spot

and on washing of his hands, solution turned pink.

Without commenting upon the merits of the case, considering that though investigation is complete conclusion of trial is likely to take time, the petitioner has no criminal antecedents and being a government official *prima facie* there is no chance of his absconding, bail is granted to the petitioner on furnishing surety bonds to the satisfaction of the Chief Judicial Magistrate/ Duty Magistrate concerned.

The petition is allowed.

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

(AVNEESH JHINGAN)
JUDGE

22nd September, 2022
anuradha

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