

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

209

CRM-M-53013-2021

Date of decision : 23.02.2022

JASVIR SINGH

..... Petitioner

VERSUS

STATE OF PUNJAB

..... Respondent

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HARSIMRAN SINGH SETHI

Present :- Mr. Nitin Mittoo, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Sandeep Singh Deol, DAG, Punjab.

(Through video conferencing)

Harsimran Singh Sethi, J. (Oral)

The present petition has been filed under Section 439 Cr.P.C. for the grant of regular bail to the petitioner in respect of FIR No. 217 dated 01.11.2020 under Section 61-1-14 of the Punjab Excise Act, 1914, registered at Police Station Bilga, District Jalandhar Rural (Annexure P-1).

Learned counsel for the petitioner argues that the petitioner has been falsely implicated in the present case and further, as the investigation is already over and the challan has also been submitted and the prosecution witnesses are all official witnesses, the petitioner may kindly be extended the benefit of regular bail as the trial is likely to take some time before it concludes.

Learned State counsel on the other hand submits that though, in the present case, the investigation is already over and the challan has been presented and some prosecution witnesses have already been examined but, the petitioner is a habitual offender and therefore, the grant of bail to the

petitioner may kindly be declined.

I have heard learned counsel for the parties and have gone through the record with their able assistance.

Keeping in view the facts and circumstances of this case, where the investigation is over and the charges have also been framed and the witnesses to be examined are official witnesses. No useful purpose will be achieved in keeping the petitioner behind the bars during the entire period of trial as the trial is likely to take some time before it concludes keeping in view the restricted working of the Courts due to the pandemic of Covid 19 especially in view of the fact that the learned counsel for the petitioner has also undertaken before this Court, that in case, petitioner is extended the concession of the regular bail, he will maintain good conduct and will not influence the trial or the witnesses in any manner.

Without commenting upon the merits of the case, it is directed that the petitioner be released on regular bail, subject to the satisfaction of trial Court/Duty Magistrate concerned.

However, it is made clear that anything observed herein shall not be construed to be an expression of any opinion on the merits of the case.

(HARSIMRAN SINGH SETHI)
JUDGE

23.02.2022

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Whether speaking/reasoned	Yes
Whether Reportable :	No