

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

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CRM-M-53904-2022
Date of decision: 21.11.2022

Manpreet Singh**...Petitioner**

Versus

State of Punjab**...Respondent****CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARVIND SINGH SANGWAN**

Present:- Mr. K. S. Brar, Advocate
for the petitioner.

ARVIND SINGH SANGWAN, J. (Oral)

Prayer in this petition is for setting aside the order dated 24.05.2022, passed by the Additional Sessions Judge, Ludhiana, vide which the petitioner has been declared a proclaimed offender in case FIR No. 57 dated 30.05.2017, registered under Section 379-B(2) IPC at Police Station Moti Nagar, Ludhiana.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the petitioner was granted the concession of regular bail on 27.07.2017 and was regularly attending the court proceedings, however, during COVID-19 situation, the dates were being fixed by the NIC and the petitioner was not aware of the dates and he could not appear before the trial Court, due to which, he has been declared a proclaimed offender by the trial Court.

Learned counsel further submits that the petitioner is ready to surrender before the trial Court and apply for grant of fresh bail.

Notice of motion.

Mr. Navneet Singh, DAG, Punjab, who is present in Court,

accepts notice on behalf of the respondent-State.

Learned State counsel has not disputed the factual position but opposed the prayer of the petitioner.

In view of the same, the present petition is allowed and the impugned order is set aside. The petitioner is directed to appear before the trial Court within a period of 15 days from today and on doing so, the trial Court will release him on bail, subject to his furnishing fresh bail/surety bonds to its satisfaction.

Till the time the petitioner appears before the trial Court, his arrest shall remain stayed.

However, this will be subject to a condition that petitioner will deposit a cost of Rs. 3,000/- with the District Legal Services Authority, Ludhiana.

21.11.2022

Waseem Ansari

**(ARVIND SINGH SANGWAN)
JUDGE**

Whether speaking/reasoned

Yes/No

Whether reportable

Yes/No