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

**CRM-M-1607-2023**  
**Date of Decision: 16.03.2023**

**Jagtar Singh**

....Petitioner(s)

Versus

**State of Punjab**

.....Respondent(s)

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JASGURPREET SINGH PURI**

Present: Mr. Ankit Rana, Advocate for  
Mr. Jagjeet Singh, Advocate, for the petitioner.

Ms. Akshita Chauhan, DAG, Punjab.

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**JASGURPREET SINGH PURI, J. (Oral)**

The present is a second petition filed under Section 439 of the Code of Criminal Procedure for the grant of regular bail to the petitioner in FIR No. 222 dated 19.08.2020, under Sections 489-A, 489-B, 489-C, 489-D, and 34 IPC, registered at Police Station City Hoshiarpur, District Hoshiarpur.

Learned counsel for the petitioner has submitted that the petitioner is in custody for about 2 years and 7 months and two prosecution witnesses have already been examined. He submitted that the allegations against the petitioner were with regard to recovery of fake currency notes to the tune of Rs. 50,000/-. He submitted that the petitioner is not involved in any similar kind of offence except for offence under Sections 420 and 120-B IPC and Section 13 of Punjab Travel Professions

Regulation Act and has submitted that in view of the long custody of the petitioner and the fact that the trial of the case may take long time, the petitioner may be considered for the grant of regular bail. He further submitted that the co-accused namely Sodhi Ram @ Sodhi has also been extended the benefit of regular bail by this Court and although the petitioner is not at parity with the aforesaid co-accused Sodhi Ram @ Sodhi because the aforesaid Sodhi Ram @ Sodhi was nominated on the basis of the disclosure statement but the petitioner may be considered for the grant of regular bail on the ground of his long custody.

On the other hand, Ms. Akshita Chauhan, learned Deputy Advocate General, Punjab has submitted that it is correct that the petitioner is in custody for about 2 years and 7 months and there is only one case against the petitioner pertaining to Sections 420 and 120-B IPC and Section 13 of Punjab Travel Professions Regulation Act. She has also stated that two witnesses in the present case have already been examined. She has opposed the grant of bail on the ground that there was a recovery of fake currency notes to the tune of Rs.50,000/- and therefore, the matter is serious in nature.

I have heard the learned counsel for the parties.

The petitioner has already faced incarceration for about 2 years and 7 months and two witnesses have already been examined. The petitioner is not involved in any other case of similar nature. The trial of the case may take long time. One of the other co-accused namely Sodhi Ram @ Sodhi has already been granted regular bail by this Court. Furthermore, it is not the case of the State that in case the petitioner is

released on bail, then he may influence any witness or may tamper with evidence or may flee from justice.

In view of the aforesaid facts and circumstances, this Court deems it fit and proper to grant regular bail to the petitioner.

Consequently, the present petition is allowed. The petitioner shall be released on regular bail subject to furnishing bail bonds/surety to the satisfaction of the learned trial Court/Duty Magistrate concerned.

However, anything observed hereinabove shall not be treated as an expression of opinion on merits of the case and is meant for the purpose of deciding the present petition only.

16.03.2023

rakesh

(JASGURPREET SINGH PURI)  
JUDGE

|                    |   |        |
|--------------------|---|--------|
| Whether speaking   | : | Yes/No |
| Whether reportable | : | Yes/No |