

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

208/2

2023:PHHC:136492

CRM-M-33593-2023

Date of decision: October 19th, 2023

Ashok Kumar

.....Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

.....Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE MANJARI NEHRU KAUL

Present: Ms. Puja Chopra, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Mohit Kapoor, Additional Advocate General, Punjab.

MANJARI NEHRU KAUL, J. (ORAL)

Instant petition has been filed under Section 438 Cr.PC for grant of anticipatory bail to the petitioner in FIR No.72 dated 30.05.2023 under Sections 419 and 420 of the IPC registered at Police Station City 1 Malerkotla.

2. Vide order dated 17.07.2023, the petitioner had been granted interim anticipatory bail with direction to join investigation and the relevant part of the said order reads as under:-

“Learned counsel for the petitioner inter alia contends that the petitioner was merely a stamp vendor and admittedly, he had an agency of issuing sim cards for which he had appointed agents as per the policy of BSNL. It has been further submitted that none of the 12 sim cards, which were allegedly issued on the basis of fake particulars of people, had ever been activated much less misused.”

3. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that in compliance of order dated 17.07.2023, the petitioner has joined investigation and cooperated with the investigating agency.

4. Learned State counsel, on instructions, does not dispute the factum of the petitioner having joined investigation and cooperated with the investigating agency. He on further instructions submits that the petitioner is not required for further investigation much less for his custodial interrogation.

5. In view of the above, the petition is allowed and interim order dated 17.07.2023 is made absolute subject to the conditions laid down in Section 438(2) Cr.P.C.

October 19th, 2023
Puneet

(MANJARI NEHRU KAUL)
JUDGE

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