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IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT  
CHANDIGARH

CRM M 40751-2023  
Date of Decision 21.08.2023

Mintu Kumar

.....*Petitioner*

*versus*

*State of Punjab*

...Respondent

**Coram      Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajbir Sehrawat**

Present: Mr. Somnath Tayal, Advocate for the petitioner



**Rajbir Sehrawat, J, (Oral)**

The present petition has been filed under Section 438 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, praying for grant of anticipatory bail to the petitioner in case FIR No. 152 dated 06.06.2023, registered under Sections 420, 468, 471 and 120-B of the Indian Penal Code at Police Station Patran, Patiala (Annexure P-1).

It is submitted by counsel for the petitioner that the petitioner is the authorized agent of *Vodafone* Idea Limited for procuring connections business. In the process, he had only sent the forms of the intending customers to the *Vodafone* company for getting the SIM cards issued. Therefore, the petitioner has no adverse role in the process at all. There is no other case against the petitioner.

Notice of motion.

Mr. Sandeep Singh, Additional Advocate General, Punjab  
accepts notice on behalf of the respondent State.

Counsel for the State, being assisted by ASI Jagdish Nain has

submitted that the petitioner is found involved in the heinous crime of getting issued the multiple SIM cards on the same identity; which could have played havoc on the general public. So far as the role of the petitioner is concerned, it was his duty to first get verified the bio-metrics and then sent the verified form/application to the Vodafone company for further action. Therefore, the entire fault lies with the petitioner only. The police are to unearth the true dimensions of the crime, in which the petitioner is found to be involved. Therefore, the custodial interrogation of the petitioner is imperative in this case.

In view of the facts and circumstances available on the file, as well as, submissions made by counsel for the State, this Court does not find it appropriate to interfere in the matter and to grant her concession of anticipatory bail.

(Rajbir Sehrawat)  
Judge

August 21, 2023  
mohan bimbura

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