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

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CRM-M-45803-2023

Date of decision : 15.11.2023

Sarabjeet Ukhala**..... Petitioner****versus****State of Punjab****..... Respondent****CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PANKAJ JAIN**

Present: Mr. Sunny K. Singla, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Tarun Aggarwal, Sr. DAG, Punjab.

PANKAJ JAIN, J. (Oral)

1. While issuing notice of motion on 14.09.2023, following order was passed:-

“Notice of motion.

On advance service of copy of petition, learned State counsel appears and accepts notice on behalf of respondent-State of Punjab and seeks time to get instructions.

Adjourned to 15.11.2023.

In the meanwhile, petitioner shall join investigation, as and when required by the Investigating Agency and subject to his reporting to the Investigating Officer within two weeks from today, no coercive steps qua arrest of the petitioner shall be taken. In case his arrest is required to be caused, petitioner shall be released on bail by the Arresting Officer till the next date of hearing on his furnishing personal bonds to the satisfaction of Arresting Officer. Petitioner shall also abide by all

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the conditions as envisaged under Section 438(2) Cr.P.C.”

2. Today, learned State counsel, on instructions from ASI Balwinder Singh, has stated that pursuant to the order dated 14.09.2023, the petitioner has joined investigation and is no longer required for custodial interrogation.

3. In view of above, the interim order dated 10.08.2023 passed by this Court is made absolute, subject to the conditions as enumerated under Section 438(2) Cr.P.C.

4. This order should not be treated as "blanket" order. It will not be read granting petitioner indefinite protection from arrest. It shall be confined to the FIR mentioned *ibid* and will not operate in respect of any other incident that involves commission of an offence.

5. This order does not in any manner limit or restrict the rights or duties of the police or investigating agency, to investigate into the charges against the petitioner.

6. The petitioner shall be deemed to be in custody for the purpose of Section 27 of the Evidence Act, 1872 in regard to a discovery of facts made in pursuance of information supplied by the petitioner in case the occasion arises.

7. It will be open to the police or the investigating agency to move this court for a direction under Section 439 (2) Cr.P.C. to arrest the accused, in the event of violation of any term, such as absconding, non-cooperating during investigation, evasion, intimidation or inducement to witnesses with a view to influence outcome of the investigation or trial.

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8. Needless to say that anything observed herein shall not be construed to be an opinion on the merits of the case.
9. Disposed off accordingly.

(PANKAJ JAIN)
JUDGE

15.11.2023
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Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes

Whether Reportable : No