

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

219

CRM-M-49778-2022
Date of decision: 22.02.2023

HARPAL SINGH

....Petitioner(s)

Versus

STATE OF PUNJAB

...Respondent(s)

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AMAN CHAUDHARY

Present : Mr. J. S. Gill, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Manipal Singh Atwal, DAG, Punjab.

AMAN CHAUDHARY. J.

The present petition has been filed under Section 439 Cr.P.C. for the grant of regular bail to the petitioner in respect of FIR No. 109 dated 07.05.2022 under Sections 307, 353, 186, 506, 148, 149 IPC and Section 25 of the Arms Act registered at Police Station Jandiala, District Amritsar.

Learned counsel contends that the petitioner has been in custody since 18.07.2022. The allegations against the petitioner are that though he was named in the FIR, however, not shown to be armed with any weapon nor was arrested at the spot. No overt act has been attributed to him. Injury caused at the hands of co-accused Jobanjeet Singh, who is in custody. Co-accused namely Sherpreet Singh @ Gulaba and Ajaypal Singh who were also named in the FIR and were arrested at the spot have since been granted regular bail vide orders of this Court dated 03.02.2023 and 02.12.2022 respectively. Though, challan was presented on 21.08.2022, however, charges have yet not been framed; there are a

total of 17 prosecution witnesses and the trial is likely to take sufficiently long time.

Learned State counsel has filed custody certificate, same is taken on record, as per which the custody of the petitioner is 6 months and 9 days. He opposes the bail on the ground that the petitioner is involved in two more FIRs. He was present at the spot alongwith other co-accused who had given the injuries to the police officials. However, he is unable to controvert the other submissions made by learned counsel for the petitioner in particular with regard to custody, stage of the trial and that the co-accused having been granted regular bail.

Heard.

In view of the facts and circumstances of the case, in particular that the petitioner has been in custody for the last more than 6 months, co-accused have been granted bail, but charges are yet to be framed; challan has been presented and there are a total of 17 prosecution witnesses; the trial is likely to take a considerable time, his further detention behind bars would not serve any useful purpose, thus the present petition for grant of regular bail deserves to be allowed.

As a result, the present petition is allowed. The petitioner is ordered to be released on regular bail, subject to his furnishing bail/surety bonds to the satisfaction of trial Court/Duty Magistrate concerned and subject to him not being required in any other case. The petitioner shall abide by the following conditions:-

1. The petitioner will not tamper with the evidence during the trial.
2. The petitioner will not pressurize/ intimidate the prosecution witnesses.
3. The petitioner will appear before the trial Court on each and every date fixed, unless is exempted by a specific order of Court.

- 4. The petitioner shall not commit an offence similar to the offence of which, he is an accused, or for commission of which he is suspected of.
- 5. The petitioner shall not directly or indirectly coerce, induce, threaten or promise to any person acquainted with the facts of the case so as to dissuade him/ her from disclosing such facts to the Court or to any police officer or tamper with the evidence in any manner.
- 6. The petitioner shall not in any manner misuse his liberty.
- 7. The petitioner shall furnish his address and mobile number to the Trial Court forthwith and shall not change the same till the conclusion of the trial and in case for any reason, the petitioner seeks to change any of the aforesaid, the same shall be done only with prior intimation to the learned Trial Court, stating the reason for the same.
- 8. The petitioner shall deposit his passport, if any, with the Trial Court forthwith and in case, he does not have the passport, he shall furnish a specific affidavit in this regard.

It is made clear that in case of any infraction of any of the aforesaid conditions, the State shall be at liberty to seek cancellation of bail as granted to the petitioner by this order.

In view of the above, this Court makes it clarified that the observations made herein above are limited for the purpose of present proceedings and would not be construed as any opinion on the merits of the case and the trial would proceed independently of the aforesaid observations.

(AMAN CHAUDHARY)
JUDGE

22.02.2023
Mehak

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