

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

CRM-M No. 3081 of 2024 (O&M)
Date of Decision: 25.01.2024

Jagjeet Singh Brar @ Deepu

..... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

..... Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HARKESH MANUJA

Present: Mr. Prince Goyal, Advocate, for the petitioner.

Mr. Gurlal Singh Dhillon, Assistant Advocate General, Punjab

HARKESH MANUJA, J. (ORAL)

The petitioner, by way of present petition filed under Section 439 Cr.P.C., seeks grant of regular bail pending trial in case FIR No. 140, dated 12.09.2023, under Sections 408, 420 & 120-B of IPC registered at Police Station Jaito, District Faridkot, wherein the petitioner has been implicated with the allegations of having stolen two cheques bearing Nos. 887266 & 887277 from the office of his previous employer, i.e. Kheti Virasat Mission.

[2] On the other hand, learned State Counsel vehemently opposes the prayer for grant of regular bail to the petitioner and submits that the petitioner, while employed as Accountant with the complainant, had stolen two cheques which were later got encashed through co-accused, namely, Nishan Singh and Lovepreet Singh alias Ghandi.

[3] I have heard learned counsel for the parties and gone through the paper-book. I find substance in the submissions made by learned counsel for the petitioner.

[4] In the present case, the petitioner is in custody since 16.09.2023 and investigation already stands concluded with the filing of challan followed by framing of charges. The petitioner is behind the bars for a period of almost 4 months and 10 days and the trial may take some time. Even as per the learned State Counsel, it is not the petitioner who could be seen in the CCTV footage of the bank while withdrawing the two cheques as well and the factum of theft of these two cheques by the petitioner being matter of evidence is to be ascertained during the trial.

[5] Considering the totality of the circumstances besides the investigation has also been concluded with the filing of challan followed by framing of charges and the petitioner is behind the bars since 16.09.2023, this Court does not deem it proper to extend the incarceration of the petitioner.

[6] In view of the above, but without commenting upon merits of the present petition, the same is allowed. The petitioner is ordered to be released on bail subject to his furnishing adequate bail bonds / surety bonds to the satisfaction of the Trial Court/Illaq Magistrate/Duty Magistrate concerned.

[7] However, in case the petitioner indulges himself in similar kind of activity, the prosecution shall be at liberty to seek cancellation of the bail granted in favour of the petitioner in the present case.

January 25, 2024

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**(HARKESH MANUJA)
JUDGE**

<i>Whether Speaking/reasoned</i>	<i>Yes/No</i>
<i>Whether Reportable</i>	<i>Yes/No</i>