

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

128

CRM-M-7598-2024
Date of decision: 13.02.2024

CHANDAN MEHTA

....Petitioner

Versus

STATE OF PUNJAB

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE KULDEEP TIWARI

Present : Mr. Ruhani Chadha, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Akshay Kumar, AAG, Punjab

KULDEEP TIWARI. J.(Oral)

1. Through the instant petition, challenge has been made to the order dated 22.02.2013 (Annexure P-6), whereby, the petitioner has been declared as proclaimed offender, in case bearing FIR No.47 dated 20.03.2007 (Annexure P-1), under Sections 51, 52, 52-A, 63-A, 64, 66 and 68-A of the Copyrights Act, registered at Police Station Division No.1, Jalandhar, as well as all the subsequent proceedings arising out of the said FIR.
2. The *zimni* orders as annexed by the petitioner reveals that the petitioner was earlier continuously appearing before the learned trial Court concerned. However from 10.02.2010, onwards, the petitioner remained absent, and despite issuance of proclamation notice, he did not cause his appearance before the learned trial Court concerned, which led to passing of the impugned order (*supra*).
3. Though the learned counsel for the petitioner has herein, challenged

the impugned order (supra), however, he could not cite any illegality or perversity passed by the learned trial Court concerned. Learned counsel for the petitioner further submits that in order to earn his bread and butter, the petitioner had left the country & went abroad, and the delay in conclusion of trial, was due to the non-appearance of the petitioner. Learned counsel for the petitioner also submits that now the petitioner has came back to India, and willfully and voluntarily wants to join the proceedings before the learned trial Court concerned.

4. Be that as it may, since an innocuous and *bona fide* prayer has been made by learned counsel for the petitioner, this Court directs the petitioner to join the proceedings within 15 days from today, by surrendering before the learned trial Court concerned. In case the petitioner appears before the learned trial Court concerned within 15 days, and moves a proper application for grant of regular bail before the learned trial Court concerned, the latter shall make every endeavor to decide the bail application, if any, moved, expeditiously.

5. Disposed of accordingly.

13.02.2024
amandeep

(KULDEEP TIWARI)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned.	:	Yes/No
Whether Reportable.	:	Yes/No