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IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA AT  
CHANDIGARH

CRM-M-14599-2024  
Date of decision:-14.05.2024

GURPREET SINGH @ GOPI

... Petitioner

Versus

STATE OF PUNJAB

... Respondent

CORAM:- HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJIV BERRY.

Present:- Mr. Prateek Pandit, Advocate for the petitioner.  
Mr. Japjot Singh, AAG, Punjab.

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SANJIV BERRY, J. (ORAL)

The instant petition has been preferred by the petitioner under Section 439 of the Code of Criminal Procedure for grant of regular bail in the following case (Annexure P-1):-

| FIR No. | Dated      | Sections                                                                                       | Police Station                              |
|---------|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| 295     | 07.09.2022 | 420, 465, 468, 471, 120-B, 411 IPC and 13 of Punjab Travel Professional (Regulation) Act, 2014 | Maqboolpura Police Commissionerate Amritsar |

2. It is *inter alia* contended by learned counsel for the petitioner that the petitioner is innocent and has been falsely implicated in this case. He submits that the petitioner is not working as travel agent and infact the amount so received from the complainant was immediately transferred to one Manjit Singh vide receipt (Annexure P-2 to Annexure P-5). He submits that



petitioner was arrested on 14.07.2023, challan has already been presented in Court and it will take sufficient long time to conclude, as such he prays for grant of concession of bail to the petitioner.

3. *Per contra*, learned State counsel has opposed the bail petition by arguing that the petitioner had taken ₹10.77 lacs from the complainant on the pretext of sending complainant's son abroad and provided fake visa, as such the petitioner does not deserve concession of bail.

4. After considering the rival contentions and perusing the record, it transpires that the case of the prosecution registered on the statement of the complaint Balkar Singh that the petitioner along with Amandeep Singh has allured the petitioner that he will be sent abroad on work permit and accordingly he paid different amount on different dates but neither he was sent to abroad nor the amount was returned, hence the FIR.

5. Admittedly, the petitioner was arrested on 14.07.2023 and since then he is in custody, after completion of investigation challan has been presented in Court, as such he is not required for further investigation in the matter. The conclusion of trial in the present case triable by the Court of Magistrate will take sufficient long time and no purpose would be served by keeping petitioner behind bars any longer.

6. Resultantly, the present petition is allowed. The petitioner is ordered to be released on regular bail subject to furnishing bail bonds/surety bonds to the satisfaction of learned Trial Court concerned, if not required in any other case; undertaking to regularly appear on each and every date; not to leave the country without prior permission of the Court; and not to tamper



with evidence of prosecution in any manner.

7. Any observation made above shall not be construed as opinion of this Court on the merits of the case.

(SANJIV BERRY)  
JUDGE

14.05.2024  
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|-----|----------------------------|--------|
| i)  | Whether speaking/reasoned? | Yes/No |
| ii) | Whether reportable?        | Yes/No |