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IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

CRM-M-52794-2023(O&M)

Date of Decision: 25.01.2024

Ravinder

...Petitioner

vs.

State of Haryana

...Respondent

Coram : Hon'ble Mr. Justice N.S.ShekhawatPresent : Mr. J.S.Mehandiratta, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Ms. Sheenu Sura, DAG, Haryana.

N.S.Shekhawat J. (Oral)

1. The petitioner has filed the instant petition under Section 439 of the Cr.P.C. with a prayer to grant regular bail to him in case FIR No.0448 dated 20.06.2023 registered under Sections 120-B, 420, 465, 467, 468, 471, 474, 476, 482 and 483 of IPC and Section 61 of Punjab Excise Act, 1914 (as applicable to Haryana vide Haryana Amendment Bill, 2020), at Police Station City Narnaul, District Mahendergarh.

2. As per case of the prosecution, on receipt of a secret information, a naka was set up by the police and 3 vehicles bearing registration No. MH-14G-7529, HR-16-5729 and HR-16-AA-6563 were stopped by the police. As per the case of the prosecution, the petitioner was driving the Scorpio vehicle, which was ahead of the truck, carrying the illicit liquor. Learned counsel further contends that the petitioner had no concern with the illicit liquor and was not present in the truck. He further contends that Keval Soni @ Kewal Soni, who

was allegedly driving the truck, carrying illicit liquor, has already been granted the concession of bail by this Court in CRM-M-55780-2023 on 11.01.2024. He further contends that the petitioner was arrested in the present case on 20.06.2023 and is in custody for the last about 07 months.

3. On the other hand, learned State counsel has vehemently opposed the submissions made by learned counsel for the petitioner on the ground that the petitioner is a police official and was involved in a serious crime.

4. I have heard the learned counsel for the parties and perused the record.

5. It is not in dispute that similarly placed co-accused, namely, Keval Soni @ Kewal Soni and Prince have already been granted the concession of bail. Recovery in the present case has already been effected. The investigation is complete and the final report under Section 173 Cr.P.C. has already been presented before the Court. Thus, no purpose would be served by keeping the petitioner behind bars.

6. Without commenting on the merits of the case, the present petition is allowed and the petitioner is ordered to be released on bail subject to his furnishing bail bonds/surety bonds to the satisfaction of the trial Court/Duty Magistrate/Chief Judicial Magistrate, concerned.

7. Pending application, if any, is also disposed of.

25.01.2024

hemlata

(N.S.SHEKHAWAT)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No

Whether reportable : Yes/No