

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

226

CRM-M-55752-2023

Date of Decision:09.01.2024

IQBAL SINGH

.....Petitioner

Vs.

STATE OF PUNJAB

.....Respondent

CORAM:- HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE DEEPAK GUPTA

Present:- Mr. Shadab Ahmad, Advocate for
Mr. Pankaj Garg, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Karunesh Kaushal, AAG, Punjab.

DEEPAK GUPTA, J.(ORAL)

Status report by way of affidavit of Murad Jasvir Singh Gill,
PPS, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Sub-Division Mansa, District Mansa,
has been filed on behalf of respondent-State. The same is taken on record.

On 06.11.2023, following order was passed:

*“Prayer in this petition is for grant of anticipatory bail under
Section 438 Cr.P.C in case FIR No.0183 dated 19.09.2023 registered
under Sections 353, 186, 189, 427 of the IPC (Section 379 of the IPC
enhanced vide DDR No.027 dated 22.09.2023) registered at Police
Station Bhikhi, District Mansa.*

*FIR has been lodged on the complaint of Forest Range Officer,
Mansa, as per which Sarpanches of Gram Panchayat of Village
Kishangarh Farwahi and Gram Panchayat of Village Phaphre Bhaike
had cut the trees having sufficient girth. The Forest Guard reached the
spot and tried to count cut trees. However, many people collected
there and misbehaved with him.*

Learned counsel contends that petitioner has been named

simply because he is the Sarpanch of one of the Gram Panchayat.

Notice of motion.

Mr. Randeep Singh Khaira, DAG, Punjab accepts notice on behalf of respondent- State.

Adjourned to 09.01.2024 for filing status report.

In the meantime, in case of arrest, the petitioner shall be released on interim bail subject to the satisfaction of the Arresting Officer/Investigating Officer. However, it is directed that the petitioner shall join the investigation as and when so required by the Investigating Officer. He shall not contact any person associated with the case to dissuade him from the investigation in any manner whatsoever and nor shall leave the country without prior permission of the Court. He shall further comply with the conditions stipulated in Section 438(2) Cr.P.C ”

Today learned State counsel, on instructions submits that petitioner has since joined the investigation and is not required for custodial interrogation.

Having regard to the aforesaid facts and circumstances, but without commenting anything further on the merits of the case order dated 06.11.2023 is hereby made absolute, whereby petitioner was granted interim anticipatory bail.

However, the petitioner shall continue to join the investigation as and when called upon to do so by the Investigating Agency and shall abide by the conditions of Section 438 (2) Cr.P.C.

09.01.2024

pry

(DEEPAK GUPTA)
JUDGE

Whether Speaking/reasoned	Yes/No
Whether Reportable	Yes/No