

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

210

CRM-M-56418-2023
Date of Decision:10.01.2024

PANJA SINGHPetitioner

Vs.

STATE OF PUNJABRespondent

CORAM:- HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE DEEPAK GUPTA

Present:- Mr. Liaqat Ali, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Ms. Kanica Sachdeva, AAG, Punjab.

DEEPAK GUPTA, J.(ORAL)

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

On 08.11.2023, following order was passed:

“Prayer in this petition filed under Section 438 Cr.P.C. is for grant of anticipatory bail in case FIR No.90, dated 30.08.2023, under Section 61 of the Punjab Excise Act, 1914, registered at Police Station Bilga, District Jalandhar Rural.

As per allegations, a secret information was received that petitioner along with Ranjit Singh and Manvir Singh used to indulge in distilling and sale of illicit liquor in their car make Esteem of silver colour bearing registration No.PB-25-C-0081 and that they are coming in the area of village Bilga. Finding the information to be reliable, case was registered. Nakabandi was laid. At the spot, Manvir Singh was apprehended from the car, but the other two occupants, i.e. petitioner and Ranjit Singh fled away from the spot. On search of the car, 400 bottles of illicit liquor were recovered.

Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that petitioner has been falsely implicated; that in fact the story of the prosecution

appears to be improbable because in case, any nakabandi was laid by the police party, it is not possible that two of the occupants of the car will flee away in the presence of the police officials. Learned counsel further contends that petitioner is ready to join the investigation and that he has no criminal antecedent.

Notice of motion.

Mr. R.S. Khaira, DAG, Punjab accepts notice on behalf of the respondent-State. A copy of paper book be supplied to him during the course of day.

Adjourned to 10.01.2024 for filing status report.

In the meantime, petitioner is directed to join investigation and co-operate in the same. He will not leave the country without prior permission of the Court nor shall make any attempt to contact the complainant of the case or any witness associated with the case. In the event of the arrest of the petitioner, he shall be released on interim bail on his furnishing personal/surety bonds to the satisfaction of the Arresting Officer/Investigating Officer. He shall also abide by conditions as envisaged under 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 08.11.2023 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.

10.01.2024

pry

(DEEPAK GUPTA)
JUDGE

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