

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

CRM-M-58829-2023 (O&M)
Reserved on: 09.01.2024
Pronounced on: 15.01.2024

Naresh Kumar Sheokand
... Petitioner(s)
Versus
State of Haryana
...Respondent (s)

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ANOOP CHITKARA

Present:- Mr. Vikram Chaudhri, Sr. Advocate (through VC) with
Mr. Sunil Sihag, Advocate,
Mr. Kunal Sharma, Advocate
for the petitioner(s).

Mr. Vikrant Pamboo, Sr. DAG, Haryana.

ANOOP CHITKARA, J.

FIR No.	Dated	Police Station	Sections
10	03.12.2020	Vigilance Bureau, Panchkula	13(1)(e) r/w Section 13(2) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988.

1. Apprehending arrest in the FIR captioned above, the petitioner had come up before this Court under Section 438 CrPC seeking anticipatory bail.
2. In paragraph 9 of the bail petition, the accused declares his criminal antecedents as follows:-

FIR No.	Dated	Police Station	Sections
5	22.7.2015	State Vigilance Bureau, Panchkula	409, 420, 467, 468, 471 & 120-B IPC and Sections 13(1) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988.
ECIR/CDZO-II/03/2021	05.03.2021		3/4 of PMLA

3. Vide order dated 22.11.2023, this Court had granted interim protection to the petitioner which is continuing till date.
4. Counsel for the petitioner submits that prior to the present petition, the

petitioner remained in custody for 4½ months in case under Section 3(1) of the Prevention of Corruption Act and after that, for a period of 3½ months also.

Reasoning:

5. Considering the fact that the present petition traces back to one incidence of corruption for which he had already remained in custody for around 8 months, coupled with the fact that this case is under Section 13(1)(e) read with Section 13(2) of the Prevention of Corruption Act and furthermore, in compliance of order dated 7.12.2023, the petitioner has already voluntarily declared his assets with an undertaking that for declaring assets, they would not claim any incrimination or violation of their rights under Articles 20/21 of the Constitution of India, Indian Evidence Act or any other law in force, there is no reason for pre-trial incarceration or custodial interrogation of the petitioner.

6. Given above, the present petition is allowed and interim order dated 22.11.2023 is made absolute. All pending applications, if any, stand disposed of.

(ANOOP CHITKARA)
JUDGE

January 15, 2024
AK

Whether speaking/reasoned	:	Yes
Whether reportable	:	Yes