

**208 IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH**

**CRM-M No.62079 of 2023(O&M)
Date of decision : 08.01.2024**

Manoj Kumar Petitioner
versus
State of Punjab Respondent

CORAM : HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE PANKAJ JAIN

Present :- Ms. Sunita Nambiar, Advocate for
Mr. Jimmy Singla, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Tarun Aggarwal, Sr. DAG, Punjab.

PANKAJ JAIN, J. (ORAL)

1. The petitioner has prayed for grant of pre-arrest bail in FIR No.142 dated 30.07.2023 registered under Sections 454, 380 IPC, at Police Station Lehra, District Sangrur.

2. On 11.12.2023 while issuing notice of motion the following order was passed:-

“Apprehending his arrest in FIR No.142 dated 30.07.2023, registered for offences punishable under Sections 454, 380 of the indian Penal Code, 1860 at Police Station Lehra, District Sangrur, the petitioner has preferred this petition under Section 438 Cr.P.C. seeking pre-arrest bail.

Ld. Counsel for the petitioner inter alia submits that even if the allegations levelled in the FIR are taken to be correct the same would at the most constitute offence punishable under Section 411 IPC and not Section 454 IPC.

Issue notice of motion, returnable for 08.01.2024.

Mr. Tarun Aggarwal, Sr. DAG, Punjab appears and accepts notice on behalf of the respondent/State.

In the meantime, in the event of arrest, the petitioner shal: be released on interim bail subject to his furnishing personal and surety

bonds to the satisfaction of the Arresting Officer/Investigating Officer. As and when called, the petitioner shall join the investigation. He shall abide by the conditions enumerated under Section 438(2) of the Cr.P.C..”

3. Today, learned State counsel, on instructions from ASI Jagraj Singh, has stated that pursuant to the order dated 11.12.2023, the petitioner has joined investigation and is no longer required for custodial interrogation.

4. In view of above, the interim order dated 11.12.2023 passed by this Court is made absolute, subject to the conditions as enumerated under Section 438(2) Cr.P.C.

5. This order should not be treated as "blanket" order. It will not be read granting petitioner indefinite protection from arrest. It shall be confined to the FIR mentioned *ibid* and will not operate in respect of any other incident that involves commission of an offence.

6. This order does not in any manner limit or restrict the rights or duties of the police or investigating agency, to investigate into the charges against the petitioner.

7. The petitioner shall be deemed to be in custody for the purpose of Section 27 of the Evidence Act, 1872 in regard to a discovery of facts made in pursuance of information supplied by the petitioner in case the occasion arises.

8. It will be open to the police or the investigating agency to move this court for a direction under Section 439 (2) Cr.P.C. to arrest the accused, in the event of violation of any term, such as absconding, non-

CRM-M No.62079 of 2023

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cooperating during investigation, evasion, intimidation or inducement to witnesses with a view to influence outcome of the investigation or trial.

9. Petition stands disposed off.
10. Needless to say that anything observed herein shall not be construed to be an opinion on the merits of the case.
11. Pending applications if any, shall stand disposed off.

(PANKAJ JAIN)
JUDGE

08.01.2024
spn

Whether speaking/reasoned	Yes
Whether Reportable :	No