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IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH

CRM-M-32722-2025

Date of decision: 19.06.2025

Amit Sharma

....Petitioner

Versus

State of Haryana

..Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ANIL KSHETARPAL

Present Dr. Pankaj Nanhera, Advocate and
Mr. Pradeep Duhan, Advocate
for the petitioner

Mr. R.K.S. Brar, Additional A.G. Haryana

ANIL KSHETARPAL, J (Oral)

1. The petitioner prays for pre-arrest bail in FIR No. 191 dated 13.03.2020 registered under Sections 409, 420, 467, 468, 471, 120-B, 201 IPC and Sections 7/13(1) of Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 at Police Station City Ballabgarh, District Faridabad, Haryana.

2. As per case of the prosecution, the petitioner was working as Data Entry Operator in the office of Sub Divisional Magistrate(Civil)-cum-District Transport Officer and in order to defraud the State revenue, the sale price of the vehicles which came for registration were undervalued and the same were registered.

3. Learned counsel representing the petitioner submits that in FIR No. 190 dated 13.03.2020 registered at Police Station City Ballabhgarh, the petitioner has been granted bail and his custodial interrogation shall not be required because the petitioner was only working as a Data Entry Operator. It is further contended

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that Faruq, the main accused and the registered owner of the vehicle has been granted the concession of bail.

4. Per contra, learned State counsel assisted by Mr. Sandeep Kumar, SP State Crime Branch, Faridabad submits that in order to unearth the entire chain of accused involved in depriving the State of its dues, the custodial interrogation of the petitioner is required because it was the petitioner's login and password which was used for registration of vehicles and as of now, it has been found that 52 such vehicles have been registered.

5. This Court has considered the submissions.

6. The relief of pre-arrest bail is not granted in routine and the police is required to unearth the entire racket of depriving the State of its revenue. Though the petitioner was merely a Data Entry Operator, however his login and password has been used to register the vehicles. Moreover, this case is required to be properly investigated in order to find out who all were involved in the offence particularly when as of now 52 vehicles are alleged to have been registered while undervaluing their price in order to defraud the State. No doubt, the petitioner has been granted the concession of regular bail in FIR No. 190 of 2020, however, in this case the petitioner is required to be subjected to custodial interrogation particularly when significant large number of vehicles are stated to be involved. Hence, no ground for grant of concession of anticipatory bail is made made.

The petition is dismissed.

(ANIL KSHETARPAL)
JUDGE

19.06.2025

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Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No
Whether reportable : Yes/No