



IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

217

CRM-M-61463-2025 (O&M)
Date of decision: 10.11.2025

Mukul Kumar

....Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AMAN CHAUDHARY

Present : Mr. Viranjeet Singh Mahal, Advocate for the petitioner

Mr. Manipal Singh Atwal, DAG Punjab

AMAN CHAUDHARY, J. (ORAL)

1. Prayer in the present petition filed under Section 483 BNSS is for grant of regular bail to the petitioner in case FIR No.278 dated 16.11.2022, registered under Sections 420 and 406 IPC at Police Station Civil Lines, Bathinda, District Bathinda.

2. Learned counsel contends that the petitioner has been in custody for 1 year and more than 2 months. The complainant is the agent, who had entrusted him with 94 applications for providing visa, wherein 6 were granted and all others came to be rejected on the grounds that, correct documents were to be supplied as well as forged reports of IELTS exam were furnished and therefore, he cannot be stated to be at any fault. There is no complaint submitted by any student. The offences are triable by Magistrate. Charges have been framed on 29.05.2024, however, out of 18 prosecution witnesses, only 4 have been examined. The petitioner is involved in 11 more cases, in 8 of which, he is on bail. Reliance is placed on the judgment passed by Hon'ble The Supreme Court titled as **Maulana Mohd. Amir Rashadi vs. State of U.P. and others**, 2012(2) SCC 382.



3. The custody certificate dated 09.11.2025, filed by the learned State counsel is taken on record. As per the same, the petitioner is behind bars for 1 year, 2 months and 14 days.

4. Learned State counsel opposes the bail on the ground that there are specific allegations against the petitioner of duping the complainant by not sending the students abroad, though the amount was transferred in his account and is a habitual offender. However, he is unable to controvert the submissions with regard to stage and the petitioner being on bail in some cases.

5. Heard.

6. Hon'ble The Supreme Court in the case of **Maulana Mohd. Amir Rashadi** (Supra) had held that, "As observed by the High Court, merely on the basis of criminal antecedents, the claim of the second respondent cannot be rejected. In other words, it is the duty of the Court to find out the role of the accused in the case in which he has been charged and other circumstances such as possibility of fleeing away from the jurisdiction of the Court, etc." Reiterating in **Prabhakar Tewari vs. State of UP and another**, (2020) 11 SCC 648, it was observed that, "The offence alleged no doubt is grave and serious and there are several criminal cases pending against the accused. These factors by themselves cannot be the basis for refusal of prayer for bail."

7. Considering the facts and circumstances of the case, in particular that the petitioner is in custody for the last 1 year, 2 months and 14 days; on bail in some cases; it is a case of magisterial trial; charges were framed on 29.05.2024, however, 14 prosecution witnesses still remain to be examined, the trial is likely to take a considerable time, further incarceration of the petitioner would be violative



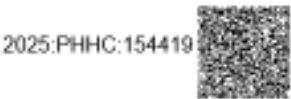
of his right enshrined under Article 21 of the Constitution of India, the present petition is allowed.

8. The petitioner is ordered to be released on regular bail, subject to furnishing bail/surety bonds to the satisfaction of trial Court/Duty Magistrate concerned, if not required in any other case and shall abide by the following conditions:-

- (i) The petitioner will not tamper with the evidence during the trial.
- (ii) The petitioner will not pressurize/ intimidate the prosecution witnesses.
- (iii) The petitioner will appear before the trial Court on each and every date fixed, unless is exempted by a specific order of Court.
- (iv) The petitioner shall not commit an offence similar to the offence of which, he is an accused, or for commission of which he is suspected of.
- (v) The petitioner shall not directly or indirectly coerce, induce, threaten or promise to any person acquainted with the facts of the case so as to dissuade him/ her from disclosing such facts to the Court or to any police officer or tamper with the evidence in any manner.
- (vi) The petitioner shall not in any manner misuse his liberty.
- (vii) The petitioner shall furnish his address and mobile number by way of an affidavit to the trial Court and not change the same till conclusion of trial and if for any reasons, he seeks to change either of the aforesaid, it shall be done only with prior information to the learned trial Court.
- (viii) The petitioner shall not leave the country without prior permission of the trial Court.
- (ix) The trial Court/Duty Magistrate may impose any other condition, as deemed appropriate while releasing the petitioner.

9. It is made abundantly clear that in case there is any breach of the aforesaid conditions, the State shall be at liberty to seek cancellation of bail as granted to the petitioner by this order.

10. In view of the above, it is clarified that the observations made herein



above are limited for the purpose of present proceedings and would not be construed as any opinion on the merits of the case and the trial would proceed independently of the aforesaid observations.

(AMAN CHAUDHARY)
JUDGE

10.11.2025
M.Kamra

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