

Court No. - 66

Case :- CRIMINAL MISC. BAIL APPLICATION No. - 39721 of 2023

Applicant :- Mahendra Singh

Opposite Party :- State Of U.P. And 3 Others

Counsel for Applicant :- Anjani Kumar Shahwal

Counsel for Opposite Party :- G.A., Ram Sajiwan Prajapati

Hon'ble Ajay Bhanot, J.

By means of this bail application the applicant has prayed to be enlarged on bail in Case Crime No. 277 of 2023 at Police Station Noorpur District Bijnor under Sections 376C I.P.C. and Section 5G/6 POCSO Act. The applicant is in jail since 15.07.2023.

The bail application of the applicant was rejected by learned trial court on 10.08.2023.

Victim is a minor of 9 years of age. The victim in her statement under Sections 161 and 164 Cr.P.C. has nominated the applicant as the principal offender who committed inappropriate sexual acts with her. Medical evidence corroborates the prosecution case. The offence is grave. There is likelihood that the applicant had committed the offence. At this stage, no case for bail is made out.

Without going into the merits of the case, the bail application is dismissed.

The Court is disturbed to find that the CWC report

records that the victim was not produced before the CWC. This reflects very callous attitude on part of the police authorities of Bijnor. This also reflects that the police authorities are not proficient in investigation and lack awareness of the laws. Failure to produce the victim before the CWC will lead to denial of various essential services like psychological/counselling support, appointment of support persons in many cases. Omission to provide these facilities as contemplated under the POCSO Act may cause a lasting trauma to the victim.

The Inspector General of Police, Bareilly Range shall ensure that an enquiry is conducted and take strict action in accordance with law regarding the failure of the concerned police authorities. The appropriate proceeding shall be completed within six months.

Considering the gravity of the offence, interest of justice will be served by directing the learned trial court to expedite the trial within a stipulated period of time.

The trial court is directed to conclude the trial within a period of one year from the date of receipt of a certified copy of this order. The learned trial court shall proceed with the hearing on a day to day basis to ensure that the above stipulated timeline of one

year is strictly adhered to. All witnesses and counsels are directed to cooperate with the trial proceedings.

The trial court has to be conscious of the rights of the accused persons and is under obligation of law to ensure that all expeditious, necessary and coercive measures as per law are adopted to ensure the presence of witnesses. Counsels or parties who delay or impede the proceedings should not only be discouraged from doing so but in appropriate cases exemplary costs should also be imposed on such parties/ counsel.

The learned trial court shall issue summons by regular process as per Section 62 Cr.P.C. and also by registered post as contemplated under Section 69 Cr.P.C. to expedite the trial.

The learned trial court shall promptly take out all strict coercive measures against all the witnesses in accordance with law who fail to appear in the trial proceeding. Counsels or parties who delay or impede the proceedings should not only be discouraged from doing so but in appropriate cases exemplary costs should also be imposed on such parties/ counsel.

The police authorities shall ensure that warrants or any coercive measures as per law taken out by the learned trial court to ensure that the attendance of the witnesses are promptly executed.

The Superintendent of Police, Bijnor shall file an affidavit before the trial court on the date fixed regarding status of execution of the warrants/service of summons taken out by the learned trial court.

In case there is a failure on part of the police authorities to execute the warrants or other coercive measures, the Superintendent of Police, Bijnor shall state the reasons for the same in the said affidavit and also show the steps taken to execute the warrants. The Superintendent of Police, Bijnor shall simultaneously inform the Additional Director General of Police (ADG) Bareilly Zone, about the aforesaid failure of the police authorities in the first instance to execute the warrants and coercive measures issued by the learned trial court. If required, the Additional Director General of Police (ADG) Bareilly, may issue an appropriate directions to ensure that the warrants issued are promptly executed by the learned trial court.

The delay in execution of warrants and consequent absence of witnesses is one of the principal causes

of delays in criminal trials and has to be addressed effectively by all stakeholders.

The trial judge shall submit a fortnightly report on the progress of trial and the steps taken to comply with this order to the learned District Judge.

A copy of this order be communicated to the learned trial judge through the learned District Judge, Bijnor by the Registrar (Compliance) by FAX.

Order Date :- 6.11.2023
Vandit