

**IN THE HIGH COURT FOR THE STATES OF PUNJAB AND
HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH**

Crl. Misc. M-30417 of 2018 (O&M)
Date of Decision: August 20, 2018

Maninder Singh @ Mani

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

...Respondent

CORAM:- HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE JAISHREE THAKUR

Present:- Mr. Ashish Gupta, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Ms. Seena Mand, DAG Punjab.

JAISHREE THAKUR, J. (Oral)

The instant petition has been filed under Section 439 Cr.P.C. for grant of regular bail to the petitioner in case FIR No.123 dated 13.09.2017, under Section 376 of Indian Penal Code, registered at Police Station City Kot-Kapura, District Faridkot.

Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that the petitioner herein was taken into custody in the aforesaid FIR on 17.09.2017. It is contended that the allegations as set out in the FIR and a reading of the cross-examination would reflect that it is only a pressurizing tactic to get the petitioner married to the complainant. It is submitted that out of total 17 witnesses, 09 witnesses have been examined, including the material witnesses and conclusion of trial will take sufficient time, therefore, the

petitioner is entitled to be enlarged on bail.

On the other hand, learned counsel for the complainant opposes the grant of regular bail to the petitioner, while submitting that only two witnesses are yet to be examined.

Per contra, learned counsel appearing on behalf of respondent-State, on instructions from the Investigating Officer, opposes the grant of regular bail to the petitioner, however, does not dispute the fact that the material witnesses have been examined.

I have heard learned counsel for the parties.

Since, the trial is likely to take some time and in view of the facts that the petitioner herein has been in custody since 17.09.2017 and that the material witnesses have been examined, no useful purpose would be served in keeping the petitioner behind bars. At this stage, without commenting on the merits of the case, the instant petition is allowed and the petitioner is directed to be released on regular bail on execution of adequate personal bond and surety bond to the satisfaction of concerned trial Court/Duty Magistrate.

August 20, 2018

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**(JAISHREE THAKUR)
JUDGE**

Whether speaking/reasoned
Whether reportable

Yes/No
Yes/No