

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

Crl. Misc.M-5284 of 2018 (O&M)

Date of Decision: September 17, 2018

Ravinder Singh

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

...Respondent

CORAM:- HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE JAISHREE THAKUR

Present:- Mr. Angraze Singh Dhindsa, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Ms. Rajni Gupta, Sr. 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 herein in case FIR No.0079 dated 16.07.2016 registered under Sections 376, 363, 366 of Indian Penal Code and Section 3 & 4 of POCSO Act and Section 3(10) of SC&ST Act, at Police Station Julkan District Patiala.

Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that the petitioner herein was taken into custody in the aforesaid FIR on 16.07.2016. It is submitted that the petitioner has been falsely implicated in the present case. It is further contended that the co-accused Shaoukat Ali @ Shonki has been granted regular bail in CRM-M-12890 of 2018 on 06.09.2018 by this Court. It is also contended that material witnesses have since been examined and conclusion of trial will take sufficient time, therefore, the petitioner is

entitled to be enlarged on bail.

Per contra, learned counsel appearing on behalf of respondent-State, on instructions from the Investigating Officer, oppose the grant of regular bail to the petitioner, while submitting that offences alleged against the petitioner are serious in nature, however, she does not dispute the fact that material witnesses have since 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 that the petitioner herein has been in custody since 16.07.2016 and that material witnesses have since been examined and co-accused has been granted regular bail by this Court, no useful purpose would be served in keeping the petitioner behind bars. At this stage, without expressing any opinion 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.

September 17, 2018

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**(JAISHREE THAKUR)
JUDGE**

Whether speaking/reasoned
Whether reportable

Yes/No
Yes/No