

CRM-M-13008-2020 (O&M)

Date of decision: 18.08.2020

Rashandeep Singh

....Petitioner

versus

State of Punjab

....Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE FATEH DEEP SINGH**Present:** Mr. Vikram Singh, Advocate
for the petitioner.Mr. Jagmohan Ghumman, DAG, Punjab
for the respondent-State.**FATEH DEEP SINGH, J.(ORAL)****CRM-14039-2020**

The learned State counsel does not want to file reply to the present application and has no objection if the same is allowed.

In view of the averments made in the application and in the interest of justice, the same is allowed subject to all just exceptions. Annexures A-1 to A-3 are taken on record.

CRM stands disposed off.

CRM-14763-2020

Learned counsel for the petitioner has made statement withdrawing the present application.

Allowed to do so.

Dismissed as withdrawn.

CRM-M-13008-2020

The petitioner-Rashandeep Singh who is in custody since 06.03.2020 has sought regular bail application in a case bearing FIR No.0214 dated 10.11.2019 under Section 354 of the Indian Penal Code and Sections 8 and 12 of the POCSO Act registered at Police Station Sadar Nabha, District Patiala, Punjab.

The present case was got registered by a minor girl aged around 17 years, a student, alleging that the accused often used to stalk her on her way to her school and in spite of repeated warnings, did not desist from doing so. On 09.11.2019, in the evening, at around 05:30 PM, when the complainant was returning from tuition, the accused caught hold of her and molested her leading to the registration of the present case.

Learned counsel for the petitioner *inter alia* contends that the petitioner is behind the bars since a long time and that the trial is not likely to be concluded in the near future on account of the prevalent COVID-19 pandemic situation.

The learned State counsel, on instructions from ASI Baljinder Singh, Police Station Sadar Nabha, District Patiala, Punjab, though does not dispute the facts but has opposed the grant of bail on the ground that if allowed bail, the petitioner might influence the trial.

Appreciating the submissions, without advertent on to the merits of the case and keeping in view the period of incarceration,

the fact that the trial is not likely to be concluded in the near future, thus, this Court deems it a fit case to allow the present petition without feeling the necessity to advert on to the claim and counter claim of parties. Accordingly, he is ordered to be released on regular bail to the satisfaction of Chief Judicial Magistrate/Duty Magistrate concerned with undertaking that the petitioner shall not repeat this conduct.

The petition stands disposed off accordingly.

18.08.2020

Neha

(FATEH DEEP SINGH)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned	:	Yes/No
Whether Reportable	:	Yes/No