

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

CRM-M-13640-2020 (O&M)

Date of decision : 15.06.2020

Amandeep Singh @ Amni

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ANIL KSHETARPAL

Present: Mr. Amritpal Singh Gill, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Surinder Pal Singh Tinna, Additional A.G. Punjab.

ANIL KSHETARPAL, J. (ORAL)

The petitioner prays for bail pending trial in a criminal case arising from FIR No.116 dated 27.07.2019 registered under Sections 363, 366-A of the Indian Penal Code at Police Station Malout, District Sri Muktsar Sahib.

In a nutshell, the case of the prosecution, which has been registered on the statement of Budh Singh, is that his granddaughter who is aged about 17 ½ years had come to stay with him alongwith her younger brother. On 27.07.2019, she went out of the house to throw garbage but did not return and when he came out to check in the street, he saw that his granddaughter standing and talking to an unknown person. On seeing him, she sat on the pillion of the motorcycle belonging to the aforesaid person and went away.

Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that the petitioner is in custody since 03.08.2019 i.e. approximately for a period of 10 months and 9 days. He further submits that on completion of the investigation, the police report has been submitted. The prosecutrix as well as first informant have already been examined in the Court. He further submits that there are no allegations of sexual assault in the present case.

On the other hand, learned counsel for the State has submitted that the trial has commenced.

In view of restricted working of the Courts, the conclusion of the trial is likely to take time. The petitioner is in custody for a period of more than 10 months. As per the case of the prosecution, the prosecutrix was 17 ½ years of age at the time of incident. She had gone with the petitioner once her grandfather noticed her standing with an unknown person.

Without commenting on the merits of the case and keeping in view the aforesaid facts, the petitioner is directed to be released on bail on his furnishing bail bonds/surety bonds to the satisfaction of the concerned trial Court/Duty Magistrate.

Accordingly, the present petition is allowed.

15.06.2020

Pawan

**(ANIL KSHETARPAL)
JUDGE**

Whether speaking/reasoned:- Yes/No

Whether reportable:- Yes/No