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

CRM-M-15025-2020 (O&M)

Date of Decision: 18.08.2020

Navjot Singh

..... Petitioner

Versus

State of Haryana

..... Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUDIP AHLUWALIA

Present: Mr. M.S. Rana, Advocate,
for the applicant-petitioner.

Mr. Gagandeep Singh Chhina, AAG, Haryana.

SUDIP AHLUWALIA, J. (ORAL)

CRM-13283-2020

The present application is for exemption from filing the Process/Court Fee in support of the main Petition.

For the reasons mentioned in the application, the Applicant/Petitioner is permitted to be exempted from filing the Process/Court Fee at this stage, subject to the condition that the same must be filed latest by 08.09.2020.

Application stands disposed off.

CRM-M-15025-2020

This is a petition for regular bail filed under Section 439 Cr.P.C. on behalf of the petitioner in case FIR No.12 dated 05.02.2020, under Sections 8 and 12 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 (in short the 'POCSO Act') and Section 506 of the Indian Penal Code (in short the 'IPC'), registered at Police Station Women, Kurukshetra,

District Kurukshetra.

[2]. The petitioner was arrested on 06.02.2020. Thereafter, he has remained in detention while investigation against him has already been completed and challan submitted. Trial has however not yet commenced and is obviously likely to take its own considerable time to complete on account of the ongoing Covid-19 Pandemic.

[3]. Further on considering the contents of the FIR, it would appear *prima facie* that the ingredients of the offence under Section 11(ib) of the POCSO Act can at best be hardly made out.

[4]. In these circumstances, without commenting any further on the merits of the present case as a whole, and in view of the detention undergone by the petitioner, this Court is of the opinion that no useful purpose would be served by keeping him in detention for an indefinite period, at this stage.

[5]. As such, the prayer of the petitioner for regular bail is allowed and he is ordered to be released on regular bail subject to appropriate terms and conditions to the satisfaction of the Ld. Trial Court/Duty Magistrate, concerned.

[6]. Disposed off.

18.08.2020

Bhumika

**(SUDIP AHLUWALIA)
JUDGE**

1. Whether speaking/reasoned: Yes/No

2. Whether reportable: Yes/No