

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

214

CRM-M-15265-2020

Date of decision: 01.07.2020

Paramjit Singh alias Prince Baba

....Petitioner

versus

State of Punjab

....Respondent

CORAM: Hon'ble Mr. Justice Girish Agnihotri

Present: Ms. Rishma Verma, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Sidakmeet Singh Sandhu, AAG, Punjab.

GIRISH AGNIHOTRI, J. (Oral)

The matter has been taken up through video-conferencing on account of lockdown due to outbreak of pandemic COVID-19.

Petitioner-Paramjit Singh @ Prince Baba, stated to be aged 23 years, has filed the present petition, *inter alia* with a prayer for grant of regular bail in case FIR No.65 dated 29.06.2019 (Annexure P-1), registered under Sections 379-B & 34 of Indian Penal Code at Police Station Division No.4, District Jalandhar.

Learned counsel for the petitioner by making reference to the FIR, submits that the petitioner has not been named in the FIR. He further submits that the petitioner was arrested on 26.08.2019. Learned counsel submits that the petitioner has nearly completed one year of custody. She further submits that challan was presented on 21.10.2019, but, neither the

charges have been framed nor any witness has been examined out of total of 10 witnesses.

Learned State counsel however submits that prior to this, many cases are pending against the petitioner, where he is involved in same/similar offence. He submits that the petitioner is a habitual offender and therefore he is not entitled for concession of bail.

Faced with the situation, learned counsel for the petitioner submits that since October 2019, even the charges have not been framed, therefore, she submits that the trial is likely to take some time because of the COVID situation also. It is also submitted that due to the present COVID-19 situation, detention of the petitioner in jail would be dangerous to his life.

In view of the peculiar facts and circumstance as noticed above, considering the existing situation due to COVID and the fact that trial is likely to take time, this Court deems it appropriate to direct release of the petitioner on regular bail to the satisfaction of trial Court/Duty Magistrate concerned. However, it is made clear that anything observed herein shall not be construed as an expression on merits of the case.

The petition stands disposed of accordingly.

(GIRISH AGNIHOTRI)
JUDGE

01.07.2020

anju rani

Whether speaking/ reasoned:

Yes/No

Whether Reportable:

Yes/No