

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH
(through video conferencing)**

CRM-M-15550-2020
Date of decision: 24.07.2020

Harpreet Kaur @ Preet

.... Petitioner

versus

State of Punjab

.... Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE MANJARI NEHRU KAUL

Present: Mr. Sandeep Verma, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Rana Harjasdeep Singh, DAG, Punjab.

Manjari Nehru Kaul, J.

Instant petition has been filed under Section 439 Cr.PC for grant of regular bail to the petitioner in case FIR No.229 dated 31.10.2019 registered under Sections 363, 366-A read with 120-B IPC at Police Station City I, Abohar.

Learned counsel for the petitioner inter alia contends that there is an unexplained delay of 12 days in lodging the FIR in question, which clearly reveals that the petitioner has been falsely implicated in the case in hand. He further contends that the petitioner is behind bars since 04.11.2019 and no prosecution witness has been examined so far. It has also been stated that similarly situated co-accused namely Vijay Kumar, Sukhi and Poonam @ Poona, who had allegedly taken away the prosecutrix on the pretext of getting married, had already been extended the concession of bail. The case of the petitioner was thus, on a much better footing as the prosecutrix was just shown to have been recovered from her.

Learned counsel for the State, on the other hand, while opposing the prayer of learned counsel for the petitioner has not been able to controvert the factual aspect of the submissions made by the learned counsel for the petitioner. He on instructions from IO Sukhminder Singh submits that charges have been framed in the FIR in question.

Heard.

Having considered the submissions made by either side, no useful purpose would be served in keeping the petitioner behind bars as the trial is unlikely to conclude in the near future more so in the wake of outbreak of pandemic Covid-19. Hence, the present petition is allowed and the petitioner is admitted to bail to the satisfaction of the trial Court/Duty Magistrate. However, it is made clear that anything observed hereinabove shall not be construed to be an expression of opinion on the merits of the case.

24.07.2020
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(MANJARI NEHRU KAUL)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/non-speaking?	Yes
Whether reportable?	No