

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

CRM-M-18506-2020
Decided on: 30.07.2020

Akashdeep Singh

... Petitioner(s)

Versus

State of Punjab

... Respondent(s)

CORAM: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE MANJARI NEHRU KAUL

Present: Mr. G.S. Manku, Advocate
for the petitioner(s).

Ms. Monica Jalota, DAG, Punjab
assisted by ASI Tarsem Singh.

MANJARI NEHRU KAUL, J.

Due to the outbreak of pandemic COVID-19, the instant case is being taken up for hearing through video conferencing.

This present petition has been filed under Section 439 Cr.P.C. for grant of regular bail in case FIR No. 197, dated 05.10.2019, under Section 376 IPC, registered at Kotwali, District Kapurthala.

Learned counsel for the petitioner *inter alia* contends that totally false and frivolous allegations have been levelled against the petitioner in the FIR in question. In fact, the victim was a 30 year old lady having three children at the time of alleged occurrence, whereas, the petitioner was a 19 year old boy. Hence, it could not be digested by any stretch of imagination that the petitioner would have lured the prosecutrix into a relationship with him and that too on the pretext of solemnizing marriage with her.

Per contra, learned State counsel on instructions from ASI Tarsem Singh, has apprised this Court that 03 out of the 15 prosecution witnesses cited so far, including the prosecutrix and the Doctor, have been

examined and the next date of hearing before the trial Court is 11th August, 2020.

Heard.

In view of the submissions made by learned counsel for the parties and keeping in view the fact that the petitioner is in custody since 05th October, 2019. I deem it a fit case for grant of the concession of regular bail, as the trial is unlikely to conclude in the near future, more so, in the prevailing conditions due to the outbreak of COVID-19. The petition as such is allowed and the petitioner is admitted to bail to the satisfaction of trial Court/Duty Magistrate. However, it is made clear that anything observed hereinabove shall not be construed as an expression of opinion on the merits of the case.

(MANJARI NEHRU KAUL)
JUDGE

July 30, 2020

J.Ram

Whether speaking/reasoned: Yes/No

Whether Reportable: Yes/No