

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

CRM-M-20246-2020

Date of Decision:08.09.2020

Simranjit Kaur @ Sona

....Petitioner

Vs.

State of Punjab

.... Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUDIP AHLUWALIA

Present: Mr. Mandeep Kumar Dhot, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Randhir Thind, DAG Punjab.

SUDIP AHLUWALIA J. (ORAL)

CRM-17564-2020

The present application is for exemption from affixing the Court Fee and original vakalatnama with the main petition.

For the reasons mentioned in the application, the Applicant/Petitioner is permitted to be exempted from affixing the Court Fee and original vakalatnama at this stage, subject to the condition that the same must be filed latest by 05.10.2020.

Application stands disposed off.

CRM-M-20246-2020

This is an application for grant of regular bail to the petitioner in the case FIR No.142 dated 11.07.2019 under Section 370-A of IPC 1860, Section 3 and 4 of Immoral Traffic Prevention Act, 1956 and Section 17 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offence Act, 2012 and Section 5 of Immoral Traffic Prevention Act, 1956 (added later on), Section 6 of the Protection of Children from Sexual offence Act, 2012 (added later on) and Sections 370, 342, 376-D of IPC 1860 (added later on) at Police Station City Sangrur, District Sangrur.

Notice of motion.

Mr. Randhir Thind, DAG Punjab, accepts notice on behalf of the respondent-State.

Petitioner has remained in custody for almost nine months since 29.12.2019. In the meantime, investigation against her has already been completed and challan submitted. The petitioner is a woman. It transpires that charges in the case have so far been framed but evidence from the prosecution side could not commence on account of onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. There is little likelihood of completion of expeditious trial in near future in the given circumstances.

As such without further commenting on the merits, this Court is of the opinion that further detention of the petitioner for an indefinite period of time at this stage is not warranted.

In the circumstances, the present petition is allowed and the petitioner, namely, Simranjit Kaur @ Sona d/o Jaspal Singh, is ordered to be released on regular bail subject to appropriate terms and conditions to the satisfaction of Ld. Trial Court/Duty Magistrate concerned.

08.09.2020

NainaRajput

**(SUDIP AHLUWALIA)
JUDGE**

1. Whether speaking/reasoned: Yes/No
2. Whether reportable: Yes/No