

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

**CRM-M-22399-2020 (O&M)
Date of Decision:28.08.2020**

Veerpal Kaur @ Gukar

.....Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

.....Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE TEJINDER SINGH DHINDSA

Present:- Mr. Hitesh Verma, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. A.S. Sandhu, Addl. A.G. Punjab.

TEJINDER SINGH DHINDSA J.(Oral)

This case has been taken up through Video Conferencing via Webex facility in the light of Pandemic Covid-19 situation and as per instructions.

Petitioner seeks benefit of regular bail pending trial in FIR No.49 dated 16.08.2019 registered under Sections 457, 376(2), 312, 313, 120-B IPC and Section 6 of POCSO Act at Police Station Thulliwal, District Barnala.

Counsel for the parties have been heard.

FIR came to be registered on the statement of Baldev Singh. Allegations are that daughter of the complainant aged 16 years has been sexually assaulted by one Yograj on the false pretext of marriage.

Apparently, the victim in her statement under Section 164 Cr.P.C. has stated that at one point of time she had been impregnated and thereafter the aunt, sister-in-law as also brother of Yograj had furnished to her a pregnancy termination kit.

Present petitioner is the sister-in-law of main accused-Yograj and on the strength of statement of the victim recorded under Section 164 Cr.P.C. that the present petitioner has been implicated.

Concededly, the present petitioner has been booked in by citing offences under Sections 312, 313 and 120-B IPC which were added subsequently.

Petitioner was arrested on 19.02.2020.

Investigation in the case is complete and the challan has been submitted.

Charges are yet to be framed. Trial would take time to conclude and particularly keeping in view the current Covid-19 situation.

It has gone uncontroverted that co-accused Manjeet Kaur @ Kali that is aunt of main accused Yograj and against whom there were similar allegations, has been granted benefit of bail by this Court in the light of order dated 20.08.2020 passed in CRM-M-22790 of 2020.

Without making any observations on merits and on the ground of parity as well, petitioner is held entitled to the benefit of bail.

Petitioner be enlarged on bail subject to her furnishing bail bonds/surety bonds to the satisfaction of the Trial Court/Duty Magistrate, Barnala.

Disposed of.

(TEJINDER SINGH DHINDSA)
JUDGE

28.08.2020
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Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No

Whether reportable : Yes/No