

HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH

220 - CRM-M-25309-2020 (O&M)

Date of Decision: 03.09.2020

Lovepreet Singh

... Petitioner

VS.

State of Punjab

... Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE GIRISH AGNIHOTRI

Present: Mr. Sanjeev Kumar, Advocate for the petitioner

Mr. Sukhbir, Singh, AAG Punjab

Mr. Siddharth Gupta, Advocate for the complainant

GIRISH AGNIHOTRI, J. (Oral)

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

The petitioner Lovepreet Singh who is stated to be aged 25 years has filed the present petition *inter alia* with a prayer for grant of regular bail in case FIR No.47 dated 08.03.2020 under Sections 376-D/506 IPC, Section 66(E) of IT Act, 2000, registered at PS B-Division, District Police Commissionerate, Amritsar.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits by making reference to the pleadings in the petition and that a perusal of the FIR would show that prosecutrix herself had admitted that she met Satnam Singh in 2017. It is further submitted that she used to meet Satnam Singh. The FIR is dated 08.03.2020 and the allegations are completely vague. It is stated that in the year 2018 (with no specific date and with no explanation for delay) the alleged incident had taken place.

Learned State counsel, on instructions from ASI Amarjit Singh, submits that challan in this case was presented on 06.05.2020. There are a

total of 19 witnesses and none have been examined. The charges are yet to be framed.

Counsel for the petitioner then submits that due to COVID situation retention of the petitioner in jail is dangerous to his life and otherwise also the trial is likely to take some time.

In view of the peculiar facts as noticed above, considering the existing situation due to COVID-19 and the fact that trial is likely to take some time, this Court deems it appropriate to direct the release of the petitioner on regular bail subject to his furnishing adequate bail bonds/surety bonds to the satisfaction of the Duty Magistrate/trial court concerned.

However, it is made clear that anything observed herein shall not be construed to be an expression on merits of the case.

Disposed of.

03.09.2020

vishal shonkar

- 1. *Whether speaking/reasoned?*
- 2. *Whether reportable?*

(Girish Agnihotri)
Judge

Yes/No
Yes/No