

**HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH**

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**213 - CRM-M-25941-2020 (O&M)**

**Date of Decision: 08.09.2020**

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Siddhant Kumar Mehta

... Petitioner

VS.

State of Haryana

... Respondent

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**CORAM: HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE GIRISH AGNIHOTRI**

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Present: Mr. Vinod Ghai, Senior Advocate with  
Ms. Kanika Ahuja, Advocate for the petitioner

Mr. Rajiv Goel, DAG Haryana

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**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 Siddhant Kumar Mehta aged 27 years has filed the present petition *inter alia* with a prayer for grant of regular bail in case FIR No.78 dated 18.04.2020 under Sections 376/506 IPC registered at PS Women NIT, District Faridabad (Section 328 IPC added later in challan).

Learned senior counsel submits that the present case is an outcome of wreak vengeance which the complainant had against the petitioner because of his refusal to marry her. It is the case of the petitioner that in fact as per the FIR, it is the own case of the complainant that she had met the petitioner in the year 2008 (12 years back). It is then mentioned in the FIR that both of them became casual friends and with the passage of time also became 'close friends'. It is stated that they started meeting with each other. Learned counsel for the petitioner then makes reference to para 4 of the FIR to submit that although the petitioner denies the contents of the FIR however, taking the same at its face value, it has been mentioned that

the complainant on 01.05.2019, on invitation from the petitioner, had

visited OYO Rooms, Faridabad. Even this incident is dated 01.05.2019 and the present FIR is lodged on 18.04.2020.

Learned State counsel, on instructions from ASI Suman, submits that the challan in this case was presented on 17.07.2020. There are a total of 16 witnesses and none have been examined.

Learned senior counsel further submits that the petitioner has been a student willing to pursue his studies. He is young boy of 27 years. He then submits that due to the present COVID-19 situation, detention of the petitioner in jail would be dangerous to his life and also the fact that trial is likely to take some time, the petitioner may be granted concession of regular bail.

In view of the peculiar facts noticed above, the present situation due to COVID-19 and the fact that the trial is likely to take some time, this Court deems it appropriate to direct release of the petitioner on regular bail to the satisfaction of Chief Judicial Magistrate/Duty Magistrate concerned, subject to his furnishing bail bonds/surety bonds. However, it is made clear that anything observed herein shall not be construed as an expression on merits of the case.

The petition stands disposed of accordingly.

**08.09.2020**

*vishal shonkar*

**(Girish Agnihotri)  
Judge**

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

**Yes/No**  
**Yes/No**