

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

CRM-M-41503-2019

Date of decision : 22.01.2020

Karan Singh @ Laddi

.... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

..... Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE MANJARI NEHRU KAUL

Present: Mr. S.S. Tiwana, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Ms. Jaspreet Kaur, AAG, Punjab
assisted by SI Dharmender Pal.

MANJARI NEHRU KAUL, J (ORAL)

The instant petition has been filed under Section 439 Cr.P.C. for grant of regular bail in case FIR No.27, dated 07.02.2018, under Sections 363-A, 366, 120-B of IPC (Section 376 of IPC added later on) and Section 4 of the POCSO Act, registered at Police Station Maur, District Bathinda.

Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that the prosecutrix in this case did not level any allegation against the petitioner nor in her evidence recorded before the trial Court supported the case of the prosecution, as a result of which, she was declared hostile. It has been further submitted that the petitioner has been in custody since 10.02.2018, i.e. for about two years and the trial is unlikely to conclude in the near future.

Learned State counsel does not controvert the said fact and also apprised the Court that 4 out of 12 prosecution witnesses including the prosecutrix, complainant and the Investigating Officer have been examined.

Having considered the submissions made by either side, the petitioner has been behind bar admittedly since 10.02.2018 i.e. for about two years, hence, further detention of the petitioner will not serve any useful purpose. The petition as such is allowed and the petitioner is admitted to bail to the satisfaction of trial Court/Duty Magistrate, Bathinda. However, it is made clear that anything observed herein shall not be construed as an expression of opinion on the merits of the case.

(MANJARI NEHRU KAUL)
JUDGE

22.01.2020

Dinesh

Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No

Whether Reportable : Yes/No