

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

CRM M-30104 of 2020 (O&M)

Date of Decision: June 28, 2021

Ramesh Ranga		...Petitioner
	Versus	
State of Punjab		... Respondent

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE FATEH DEEP SINGH

Present : Mr. Mayur Karkra, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. H.S. Multani, AAG, Punjab.

FATEH DEEP SINGH, J. (Oral)

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

The petitioner has come in this 1st regular bail application under Section 439 Cr.P.C. in case FIR No. 443 dated 21.12.2018 registered under Section 376 IPC and Section 4 of of Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 at Police Station Zirakpur, District S.A.S. Nagar, Mohali.

The allegations against the petitioner Ramesh Ranga have been levelled by Priti Bansal mother of a young minor girl aged around 04 years. It is alleged that the complainant on account of matrimonial dispute with estranged husband Puneet Bansal was residing separately after solemnization of marriage on 30.11.2020. The wife claims that her husband used to ill-treat her and on suspicion it transpired that her husband had illicit relations with one Meenakshi Ranga daughter of the petitioner who both were neighbours. It is alleged that the husband of the complainant started residing with Meenakshi Ranga in another city regarding which a complaint was made on 16.04.2018 and which stood compromised. As per this compromise, the elder daughter was given to the wife and the younger one to the husband. The complainant claims that husband kept younger daughter at the house of Ramesh Ranga while he himself resided in another city. The younger daughter subsequently revealed to the complainant that accused/petitioner used to “finger and kiss her” regarding which a CD too was prepared leading to registration of the present case, in which, the petitioner was arrested on 18.01.2019. Statement of the victim too was recorded under Section 164 Cr.P.C.

Shri Mayur Karkra, learned counsel for the petitioner *inter alia* contended that the petitioner is behind the bars since more than 1 ½ years and that the trial is yet to be concluded and in view of the Pandemic Covid 19 has sought the relief of bail.

It is argued that the petitioner being sympathizer of the husband has been falsely implicated by his wife who was having matrimonial litigation and that there is nothing suggestive of role of the petitioner in the commission of the crime.

Mr. H.S. Multani, learned AAG Punjab has strongly opposed the prayer claiming that a minor victim aged around 3 ½ to 4 years have been ravaged and therefore in view of the heinousness of the offence, the petitioner does not deserve concession of bail when the medical evidence goes against him.

Appreciating the submissions the victim in her stand under Section 164 Cr.P.C. and the medical evidence perused on the records which are matters of much relevance and this Court without adverting further, as the trial is underway and any observation from this Court would prejudice the trial before the trial Court refrains from doing so and in view of the heinousness of the allegations which are duly corroborated by other means does not feels expedient to allow the bail.

The petition, as such, stands declined.

June 28, 2021

(FATEH DEEP SINGH)

amit rana

JUDGE

Whether reasoned/speaking : Yes/No
Whether reportable : Yes/No