

231 IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT  
CHANDIGARH

CRM-M-13172-2022

Date of Decision: 02.08.2022

HARMANPREET SINGH

... PETITIONER

VS.

STATE OF PUNJAB

.. RESPONDENT

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VIVEK PURI

Present : Mr.Anureet S. Sidhu, Advocate  
for the petitioner.

Ms. Ruchika Sabherwal, AAG, Punjab.

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**VIVEK PURI, J.(ORAL)**

The petitioner is seeking regular bail in case bearing FIR No. 0136 dated 29.05.2021 under Sections 354/354-A/354-B/506 IPC and Sections 8 and 12 of Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, registered at Police Station Anaj Mandi, District Patiala.

Custody certificate has been placed on record.

Briefly, the allegations against the petitioner are to the effect that he had committed sexual assault upon the victim, aged about 8 years. The petitioner had caught hold the victim from her arms, took her inside the room, removed his clothes and also that of the victims.

Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that the petitioner is in custody for a period of 01 year, 02 months and 03 days and there is delay of 06 days in lodging the FIR. Moreover, the statements of the victim as well as complainant have been recorded.

Learned State counsel has opposed the bail application on the score that there are serious allegations of commission of sexual assault upon the victim, aged about 8 years.

It may be mentioned here that the petitioner has undergone custody for a period of 01 year, 02 months and 03 days. The investigation of the case is complete. During the course of trial, the statements of the victim and her parents have been recorded. As such, it cannot be said that the petitioner can win over the witnesses. The conclusion of trial is likely to take some time and no fruitful purpose will be served by further incarcerating the petitioner.

In such circumstances, sufficient grounds are made out to extend the concession of bail to the petitioner. Accordingly, without making any observation on the merits of the case, the present petition is allowed and petitioner is ordered to be released on bail, subject to his furnishing bail/surety bonds to the satisfaction of concerned trial Court/Chief Judicial Magistrate/Illaq Magistrate/Duty Magistrate.

**02.08.2022**  
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**(VIVEK PURI)**  
**JUDGE**

Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No  
Whether Reportable : Yes/No