

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH

Sr. No. 212

CRM-M-19266-2022

Date of decision : 22.09.2022

Ramanpreet Singh @ Mithu

..... Petitioner

VERSUS

State of Punjab

..... Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE DEEPAK SIBAL

Present: Mr.Vaibhav Narang, Advocate, for the petitioner.

Mr.Navneet Singh, Sr. DAG, Punjab.

DEEPAK SIBAL, J. (ORAL)

Through the present petition filed under Section 439 Cr.P.C. the petitioner seeks grant of regular bail in FIR No.55 dated 04.03.2021 registered under Section 67-A of the Information Technology Act, 2000 (Sections 201 and 354-A IPC added later on) at Police Station Jandiala, District Amritsar (Rural).

The petitioner is being prosecuted for having forwarded a vulgar and objectionable video of the petitioner and the victim to the victim's mother to pressurize her to give her daughter's hand to him in marriage.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the petitioner has been falsely implicated in this case; he is in custody for the last nearly one year; no other criminal case is pending against him; the prosecutrix already stands examined in the petitioner's trial; during the course of her examination the prosecutrix has stated that after the incident, which forms the basis of the FIR in question, on intervention of the respectables, the petitioner has tendered an apology, which was also accepted; even if the case of the prosecution is taken as the gospel truth, though vehemently denied, the alleged video was never circulated by the petitioner to anyone except the alleged victim's mother; the alleged victim has since married someone else; the alleged recipient of the

video is dead and that since 08 prosecution witnesses still remain to be examined in the petitioner's trial, the same is likely to take a long time to conclude.

Learned State counsel opposes the grant of bail to the petitioner on the ground that he has forwarded a vulgar and objectionable video of the alleged victim to her mother in order to pressurize her to marry her daughter with him.

The petitioner is in custody since 11.10.2021; he does not have any other criminal antecedents; the alleged victim already stands examined in the petitioner's trial; while appearing before the Trial Court the alleged victim has stated that after the incident, on which is based the FIR in question, on intervention of the respectables, the petitioner tendered an unconditional apology which was also accepted; the alleged recipient of the video is dead and that since 08 prosecution witnesses still remain to be examined in the petitioner's trial, the same is likely to take a long time to conclude.

In view of the above, the present case is considered to be a fit one in which the petitioner be directed to be released on regular bail. Resultantly, subject to the satisfaction of the CJM/Duty Magistrate, Amritsar, the petitioner is directed to be released on bail.

It is clarified that the above observations have been made only for the limited purpose of deciding the present regular bail application and the same would not be construed to be an expression of opinion on the merits of the case.

22.09.2022
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Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes / No
Whether reportable : Yes / No

[DEEPAK SIBAL]
JUDGE