

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

CRM-M-45723 of 2022 (O&M)

DECIDED ON:12th October, 2022

Swarsha Rani

.....PETITIONER

VERSUS

State of Punjab

.....RESPONDENT

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AVNEESH JHINGAN.

Present: Mr. Mandeep Singla, Advocate for petitioner.

Mr. M.S. Bajwa, DAG Punjab.

AVNEESH JHINGAN, J (ORAL)

Petitioner is seeking regular bail in case of FIR No.13 dated 4.8.2022, under Section 7 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 and amended Act, 2018, registered at Police Station Vigilance Bureau Range, District Ferozepur.

The brief facts are that the petitioner working as Junior Engineer, in *MGNREGA* demanded bribe of Rs.50,000/- for clearing the file for sanction of expenses for development work. The deal was struck for Rs.45,000/-. On complaint a trap was laid and she was apprehended red handed.

Learned counsel for petitioner submits that the petitioner is in custody since 4.8.2022 and investigation is complete. She is having one year old child who is dependant on mother for feed. It is argued that the petitioner is not involved in any other case.

Learned State counsel on instructions opposes the prayer and submits that the voice samples have been sent to FSL and report is awaited. However, fairly submits that the investigation is complete and challan stands presented.

Without commenting upon the merits of the case, considering that though investigation is complete conclusion of trial is likely to take time, the petitioner is a mother having a child dependant upon mother feed and she has no criminal antecedents, bail is granted to the petitioner on furnishing surety bonds to the satisfaction of the Chief Judicial Magistrate/ Duty Magistrate concerned.

The petition is allowed.

It is clarified that the observations made hereinabove shall not be construed as an expression of opinion on the merits of the case.

Since the main case has been decided, the pending application, if any is rendered infructuous.

12th October, 2022
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(AVNEESH JHINGAN)
JUDGE

<i>Whether speaking/reasoned</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Whether reportable</i>	<i>No</i>