

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

214

CRM-M- 2059-2023

Date of Decision:- 13.04.2023

Sukhchain Singh

.....Petitioner

versus

State of Punjab

..... Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE MANJARI NEHRU KAUL

Present Mr.Karandeep Singh, Advocate, for the petitioner.

Mr.Ramdeep Partap Singh, Sr.DAG, Punjab.

MANJARI NEHRU KAUL, J

The petitioner is seeking concession of regular bail under Section 439 Cr.P.C in case FIR No.35 dated 13.03.2021 (Annexure P-1), under Sections 354, 354-A, 354-D IPC and Section 12 of POCSO Act and Section 3 of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Act, registered at Police Station Bahav Wala, Tehsil Abohar, District Fazilka (Punjab).

This is the third petition filed by the petitioner subsequent to the dismissal of the previous two petitions seeking similar relief on 21.01.2022 and 19.08.2021.

Since the previous petition dated 19.08.2021 was dismissed on merits, this Court would not be inclined to entertain much less except the prayer made by the petitioner at this stage as he has yet again failed to bring to the notice of this Court any material change in circumstances thereafter.

Even otherwise, *prima facie* there are specific allegations levelled against the petitioner in the FIR in question of indulging in sexual harassment

and outraging the modesty of a minor girl aged just 14 years.

Dismissed.

In view of the long incarceration of the petitioner, the Trial Court is directed to make earnest efforts to conclude the trial expeditiously preferably within 04 months from today. In case, the trial does not conclude within the above stipulated period, the petitioner would be at liberty to approach this Court for grant of regular bail under Section 439 Cr.P.C. Needless to add, the defence counsel shall also cooperate in the expeditious conclusion of the trial.

However, nothing contained hereinabove shall not be construed to be an expression of opinion on the merits of the case.

13.4.2023
mamta

(MANJARI NEHRU KAUL)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned
Whether reportable

Yes/No
Yes/No