

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

213

**CRM-M No.99 of 2023
Date of Decision : 11.1.2023**

Satnam Singh

..... Petitioner

versus

State of Punjab

..... Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE TRIBHUVAN DAHIYA

Present: Mr. N.K. Vadehra, Advocate, for the petitioner
Mr. Kunal Vinayak, AAG, Punjab

TRIBHUVAN DAHIYA J. (ORAL):

This is a petition under Section 439 Cr.P.C. seeking regular bail to the petitioner in case FIR No.268 dated 28.10.2020 under Sections 363, 366 IPC (Section 376-D IPC and Section 4 of POCSO Act which was amended as Section 6 of POCSO Act added later on), registered at Police Station Ghuman, Police District Batala, District Gurdaspur.

As per the allegations in the FIR, registered on the statement of complainant's father, the prosecutrix was missing from her home and could not be located despite extensive search. The petitioner and another person, namely, Judge, compelled the prosecutrix to marry the petitioner. Her statement under Section 164 Cr.P.C. was recorded wherein she attributed some indecent act to Manpreet Singh alias Manna, who has already been admitted to regular bail by this Court vide order dated 10.11.2022. The petitioner is in custody since 28.11.2020.

Learned State counsel states that three out of twenty four witnesses, including the prosecutrix, have been examined.

Considering the aforesaid facts and also that conclusion of the trial

will take a long time and no useful purpose would be served by confining the petitioner in custody during pendency of the trial, this Court is of the view that he deserves to be released on bail.

Accordingly, the present petition is allowed. The petitioner is ordered to be released on bail on his furnishing bail/surety bonds to the satisfaction of the trial Court/Duty Magistrate.

(TRIBHUVAN DAHIYA)
JUDGE

11.1.2023
Ashwani

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