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IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT
CHANDIGARH

(273)

CRM-M-17211-2024 (O & M)
Date of Decision: 18.07.2024

Manisha @ Seema

... Petitioner(s)

Versus

State of Punjab

...Respondent(s)

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JASJIT SINGH BEDI

Present: Mr. Umesh Kumar Kanwar, Advocate,
for the petitioner.

Mr. Harkanwar Jeet Singh, AAG, Punjab.

JASJIT SINGH BEDI, J.

The prayer in the present petition under Section 482 Cr.P.C. is to expedite the Trial and conclude the same in a time-bound manner in FIR No.201 dated 24.12.2015 registered under Sections 406, 420, 465, 468, 471 and 120-B IPC & Section 24 of the Immigration Act, 1983 at Police Station Division No.7, Jalandhar, District Jalandhar in case CIS No.CHI-365 of 2016 titled as ‘State of Punjab versus Sarabjit Kaur alias Saveera & others’ pending in the Court of JMIC, Jalandhar.

2. The learned counsel for the petitioner contends that the petitioner alongwith certain other girls were working in the office of Royal Education Consultation, Jalandhar. The owner of the firm, namely, Gagandeep Singh had been declared a proclaimed offender. However, the petitioner alongwith certain other girls who are facing Trial are only



employees of the said firm. The FIR pertains to the year 2015 and despite a year having elapsed, the Trial has not concluded till date.

3. The learned counsel for the State, on the other hand, contends that only 10 of the 160 prosecution witnesses have been examined so far and therefore, there is bound to be some delay in the conclusion of the Trial.

4. I have heard the learned counsel for the parties.

5. Admittedly, the FIR was registered on 24.12.2015 and the report under Section 173(2) Cr.P.C. was submitted on 18.08.2017. The petitioner and other accused have suffered the agony of the protracted proceedings for the last 09 years. Therefore, I deem it appropriate to direct the Trial Court to conclude the Trial as expeditiously as possible but preferably within one year from the next date fixed before it.

6. The present petition stands disposed of in the above terms.

(JASJIT SINGH BEDI)
JUDGE

July 18, 2024
sukhpreet

Whether speaking/reasoned:- Yes/No

Whether reportable:- Yes/No