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IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT
CHANDIGARH

CRM-M-45773-2024 (O&M)
Date of decision: 16.09.2024

Rudra Pratap Singh

... Petitioner

Vs.

State of Punjab

... Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HARPREET SINGH BRAR

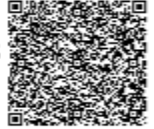
Present: Mr. Vinay Puri, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Rishabh Singla, AAG Punjab.

HARPREET SINGH BRAR, J. (ORAL)

1. Present petition has been filed under Section 482 of Bharatiya
Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (for short 'BNSS') seeking anticipatory
bail in case bearing FIR No.105 dated 10.08.2024 under Sections 3, 4 & 5
of Immoral Traffic Act, registered at Police Station Model Town,
Ludhiana.
2. Brief facts of the case are that FIR (*supra*) was registered on
the basis of secret information to the effect that the petitioner, who is owner
of Golden Thai Spa and his manager namely Sanjay, under the guise of Spa

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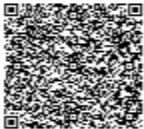
Centre, are running a prostitution business by supplying girls to their customers and if a raid is conducted, they can be apprehended.

3. Learned counsel for the petitioner, *inter alia*, contends that the petitioner is running Golden Thai Spa after obtaining necessary permission/sanction/approval from the competent authority. At the time, when the raid was conducted, the petitioner was not present at the spot and his custodial interrogation is not required, as nothing is to be recovered from him. The petitioner is not involved in any other case and his co-accused has already been granted the concession of regular bail.

4. *Per contra*, learned State counsel, on instructions from ASI Baldev Singh, opposes the prayer for grant of anticipatory bail to the petitioner on the ground that there are serious and specific allegations against the petitioner and 07 girls were recovered from the Spa Center and their statements under Section 164 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 were recorded by the jurisdictional Magistrate, in which they have categorically stated that the petitioner has pushed them into the prostitution and is misusing the Spa Centre. Statements of two customers Aakash and Rahul have also been recorded during the investigation. The petitioner is owner of Golden Thai Spa and he is recipient of the earnings from the spa used as prostitution hub.

5. I have learned counsel for the parties and perused the record of the case with their able assistance.

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6. Keeping in view the nature and gravity of the offence and also the fact that the investigation is at the initial stage and custodial interrogation of the petitioner is imperative to ascertain the *modus operandi* how he is carrying out immoral traffic activities at his Spa Centre, this Court finds no ground to grant anticipatory to the petitioner.

7. Accordingly, present petition is dismissed.

[HARPREET SINGH BRAR]
JUDGE

16.09.2024
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Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No

Whether Reportable : Yes/No