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

CRM-M-50664-2024

Date of Decision:- 10.02.2025

MANPREET SINGH ALIAS AJAY SINGH

...Petitioner

Vs.

STATE OF PUNJAB AND ANOTHER

...Respondents

**CORAM:- HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE AMARJOT BHATTI**

Present:- Mr. Bhisham Kinger, Advocate for the petitioner

Mr. Kewal Singh, Addl. A.G. Punjab.

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**AMARJOT BHATTI, J.**

1. Petitioner Manpreet Singh @ Ajay Singh has filed instant petition under Section 483 of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 for grant of regular bail in FIR No.117 dated 31.07.2023 under Sections 363, 366 (Sections 366-A, 376 IPC and Sections 4/6 of POCSO Act added and Section 366 deleted later-on) registered at Police Station Sarhali, District Tarn Taran (Annexure P-1).

2. As per the facts of the case, a written complaint was filed by Sarabjit Singh alleging that her daughter was studying in 11<sup>th</sup> class, Government School, Kairon and her date of birth is 09.12.2007. Ajay Singh son of Bagga Singh is son of his brother-in-law who used to visit their house being relative. He carried bad intention towards his daughter. Earlier he had told him to behave properly. On 27.07.2023 he had gone out for work and his wife had gone out to the house of some other person for

work and his daughter i.e. victim was alone in the house. Complainant returned home at 1 pm and noticed that his daughter and Ajay Singh were not present in the house. He tried to locate their whereabouts but could not locate them. Complainant alleged that Ajay Singh enticed away his daughter on the pretext of marriage. With these allegations, present FIR was registered. During investigation, petitioner was arrested on 17.01.2024 and the victim was recovered. Her statement was got recorded under Section 164 Cr.P.C. and the investigation started. Later-on, offence under Section 366-A, 376 IPC and under Sections 4 and 6 of POCSO Act was enhanced.

3. Learned counsel for petitioner argued that all allegations levelled against petitioner are false. Alleged victim gave her statement before Magistrate under Section 164 Cr.P.C. (Annexure P-2) where she categorically stated that she had left the house with her sweet will. She lived in the house of Ajay Singh in village Prigdi. Statement of victim recorded during investigation under Section 161 Cr.P.C. is Annexure P-3 where again she did not level any allegation against present petitioner. Copy of challan report is Annexure P-4 and copy of MLR is Annexure P-5. It is pointed out that during trial, statements of witnesses have been recorded. Copy of statement of father of victim as PW-1 (Annexure P-8) and statement of victim recorded as PW-2 (Annexure P-9) are also placed on record where they did not support the prosecution version. It is pointed out that petitioner is behind the bars since 17.01.2024. Even otherwise, matter has been compromised. Copy of compromise is Annexure P-10. Petitioner is ready to abide by the terms and conditions of bail order. Therefore, his regular bail may be allowed.

4. Status report filed. It is pointed out that there are specific serious allegations against petitioner. At the time of alleged occurrence, victim was minor. Challan has been presented and the trial is going on. Out of 22 prosecution witnesses, 6 witnesses have been examined. Copy of MLR is also annexed with the status report. It is confirmed that victim has not supported the prosecution case during the trial and she was declared hostile.

5. I have considered the arguments and have gone through the record carefully. Trial in this case is under progress. At present, statement of victim as well as her father also recorded where they did not support the prosecution case. Other witnesses are yet to be examined. Testimony of witnesses and medical record will be considered by the trial Court at appropriate stage. Custody of present petitioner is also more than one year. Trial of this case may take long time. Therefore, without going on merits of case, regular bail application filed by petitioner Manpreet Singh @ Ajay Singh is allowed and he is ordered to be released on bail to the satisfaction of trial Court/Duty Judge, concerned.

6. Pending miscellaneous application(s), if any, stand disposed of accordingly as well.

**(AMARJOT BHATTI)**  
**JUDGE**

**10.02.2025**  
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Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No.  
Whether reportable : Yes/No