CGHC010370582026 2026:CGHC:46039

NAFR

HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH AT BILASPUR

MCRC No. 9123 of 2026

1 - Yogendra Das Manikpuri S/o Laleshwar Das Manikpuri Aged About 18 Years R/o Village Litiya Police Outpost Sukuldaihan P. S. Lalbagh, District Rajnandgaon Chhattisgarh.

… Applicant

versus

1 - State Of Chhattisgarh Through - Station House Officer, Police Station Lalbagh District Rajnandgaon Chhattisgarh.

... Non-applicant

For Applicant	:	Mr. Dinesh Yadav holding the brief of Mr. Aditya Bhardwaj, Advocates
For Non-applicant /State	:	Ms. Ritika Verma, P.L.

Hon'ble Shri Justice Rakesh Mohan Pandey

Order on Board

30/10/2026

1. The applicant has preferred this First Bail Application under Section 483 of the BNSS, 2023 for grant of regular bail, as he has been arrested in connection with Crime No. 214/2026, registered at

Police Station Lalbagh, District – Rajnandgaon (C.G.) for offence punishable under Section64(2)(H) of BNS and Section 6 of POCSO Act.

2. As per the case of the prosecution, the present applicant sexually exploited the minor victim as a result of which, she conceived and thereby, the applicant committed the aforesaid offence.

3. Mr. Dinesh Yadav, learned counsel for the applicant, would argue that on the date of the incident, the age of the victim was 17 years and 3 months and victim has given her consent for grant of bail to the applicant. He would also submit that victim and her father have already been examined before the trial Court and they have not supported the case of the prosecution. He would further submit that the investigation has been completed and charge-sheet has already been filed and the applicant is in jail since 24/05/2026, thus, the appellant be released on bail as conclusion of trial is likely to take some time.

4. On the other hand, Ms. Ritika Verma, learned counsel appearing for the non-applicant/State, would oppose the bail application and submit that at the time of the incident, the victim was aged about 17 years and 3 months and therefore, the contention of consent of the victim would be irrelevant as she was a minor. She would lastly submit that serious allegations have been levelled against the applicant with regard to sexual assault of the minor victim, therefore, he is not liable to be released on bail.

5. The victim along with her father appeared before this Court through video conferencing from the concerned District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) and gave her consent for grant of bail to the applicant.

6. I have heard learned counsel appearing for the parties and perused the case diary as well as the material available on record.

7. Taking into consideration the facts and circumstances of the case, particularly that the investigation is complete and charge-sheet has already been submitted; the applicant is in custody since 245/05/2026; the victim has given her consent for grant of bail to the applicant and further considering that victim has been examined before the trial Court and she has not supported the case of the prosecution, this Court, without expressing any opinion on the merits of the case, is of the considered view that a fit case for grant of regular bail is made out. Accordingly, the bail application filed by the applicant is **allowed**.

8. It is directed that in the event of the applicant executing a personal bond for a sum of **Rs.50,000/-** with one surety in the like sum to the satisfaction of the concerned trial Court, he shall be released on bail, on following conditions :-

   (i) he shall not directly or indirectly make any inducement, threat or promise to any person acquainted with the facts of the case so as to dissuade him from disclosing such fact to the Court,

   (ii) he shall not act in any manner which will be prejudicial to fair

and expeditious trial, and

(iii) he shall appear before the trial Court on each and every date given to him by the said Court till disposal of the trial.

9. The observation made herein-above is for the purpose of deciding this bail application only, the trial Court shall decide the case on its own merits.

Sd/-

(Rakesh Mohan Pandey)

JUDGE

Harneet