



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

**CRM-M-6259-2026
Date of decision: 23.04.2026**

MAMTA RANI

...PETITIONER

V/S

STATE OF PUNJAB

...RESPONDENT

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUBHAS MEHLA

Present: Mr. Arshdeep Singh Brar, Advocate and
Mr. Arman Gill, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Sandeep Kumar, DAG, Punjab.

SUBHAS MEHLA, J. (ORAL)

1. By way of the present petition filed under Section 483 of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, the petitioner is seeking regular bail in case bearing FIR No.128 dated 06.07.2025 registered under Sections 140(3), 308(2), 127(2), 351(2), 3(5) and 61(2) of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (for short 'BNS') (Section 140 of BNS added later on) at Police Station Baghapurana, District Moga.

2. Succinctly, it is alleged that the petitioner along with co-accused abducted the complainant and illegally confined him; thereafter, the accused persons after stripping him half naked, forcibly made his video with a lady; the accused persons demanded a sum of Rs.10 lakhs as ransom, by threatening him to make the video viral on social media, which was later on settled at Rs.4 lakhs. Hence, the present FIR was registered.



3. Learned counsel for the petitioner contended that petitioner is a lady aged about 42 years; she has been falsely involved in the present case due to some political rivalry between *Sarpanch* and *Ex-Sarpanch* of the village; the true facts are that the complainant was caught in a compromising situation with a woman, and respectables of the village were called to the spot, including, mother of the petitioner, namely, Raj Rani, who is Senior Vice President of Bhartiya Kisan Union Behram Ke; petitioner being her daughter, had accompanied her to the spot, hence, all such persons were falsely involved in the present FIR to save reputation of the complainant; co-accused, namely, Raj Rani, Jaspreet Singh @ Gobhi and Major Singh have already been enlarged on regular bail by a Co-ordinate Bench of this Court vide orders dated 19.01.2026 passed in **CRM-M No.47774, 56660 & 48034 of 2025** (Annexures P-2 to P-4 respectively); petitioner is in custody for the last about 07 months and 14 days; investigation of the present case has already been completed; challan has been presented; trial will take sufficient time to conclude and no fruitful purpose would be served by keeping the petitioner behind the bars for an indefinite period. As such, learned counsel prayed for grant of regular bail to the petitioner.

4. Custody certificate filed by respondent-State is taken on record. Learned State counsel opposed the prayer made by the petitioner by submitting that petitioner was actively involved in the commission of offence as she is the registered owner of the car, in which, the complainant was kidnapped. As such, learned counsel prayed for dismissal of the present petition.

5. Heard.



6. Keeping in view the facts and circumstances of the present case and the contentions raised by learned counsel for the parties that the petitioner is in custody for the last 07 months and 14 days; the investigation has already been completed; the case is fixed for prosecution evidence; co-accused, namely, Raj Rani, Jaspreet Singh @ Gobhi and Major Singh have already been enlarged on regular bail by a Co-ordinate Bench of this Court vide orders dated 19.01.2026 passed in **CRM-M No.47774, 56660 & 48034 of 2025** (Annexures P-2 to P-4 respectively); trial will take sufficient time to conclude, which would unearth the true facts; no fruitful purpose would be served by keeping the petitioner in custody for any further period, as concession of bail cannot be denied just as a measure of punishment as culpability of accused is to be decided after appreciating evidence adduced by both the parties and it is a trite principle of criminal jurisprudence that bail is rule, jail is an exception, this Court deems it a fit case to grant the concession of regular bail to the petitioner.

7. Therefore, without expressing any opinion on the merits of the case, the instant petition is allowed. The petitioner is ordered to be released on regular bail on her furnishing requisite bonds to the satisfaction of the trial Court/Duty Magistrate/Chief Judicial Magistrate concerned.

April 23, 2026
manisha

(SUBHAS MEHLA)
JUDGE

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| (i) | Whether speaking/reasoned | Yes/No |
| (ii) | Whether reportable | Yes/No |