



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

CRM-M-21693-2026 (O&M)

Date of Decision: 18.05.2026

Raju Kaur @ Rajdeep Kaur

..... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

.....Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE NEERJA K. KALSON

Present: Mr. Digvijay Nagpal, Advocate,
for the petitioner.

Mr. Nitesh Sharma, DAG Punjab.

NEERJA K. KALSON, J.

1. This petition has been filed under Section 483 of BNSS, 2023, for the grant of regular bail to petitioner in case FIR No. 08 dated 26.01.2018, under Sections 363, 366-A and 120-B IPC (Corresponding Sections 137, 96 and 61 of BNS, 2023) (Section 366 IPC added later on) and Sections 3 & 4 of POCSO Act, registered at Police Station City-I, Mansa, District Mansa, Punjab.

2.1 Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that the petitioner was a juvenile at the time of the FIR and she has been falsely implicated in the present case. It is also contended that in her statement recorded under Section 183 of BNSS, 2023, she has specifically stated that she had left her house being fed up with her mother and her mother got registered a false case against the petitioner and other family members. It is further submitted that during investigation, no evidence of allurement of the prosecutrix by any person came on record.



2.2 It is further submitted that after investigation, a cancellation report was prepared and submitted by the SHO on 24.03.2018. It is submitted that co-accused, namely, Manjeet Kaur has been granted anticipatory bail by this Court vide order dated 15.07.2021 passed in CRM-M-9994-2020. It is further contended that petitioner has been in custody since 17.03.2026 and no useful purpose would be served by keeping the petitioner behind bars any further.

3. *Per contra*, learned State counsel has opposed the prayer made by the petitioner. It is submitted that the age of the prosecutrix was about 14 years at the time of incident. However, he could not refute the factum of filing of cancellation report by the prosecution.

4. I have heard learned counsel for the parties and perused the case file carefully.

5. Without commenting upon the merits of the case, but taking into consideration the facts that the petitioner is a young girl of 21 years of age; that the cancellation report had been prepared by the Police, however the same was not accepted by the Court, the petitioner had played no role in allurement of the prosecutrix; as per her own statement recorded under Section 183 of BNSS, 2023, prosecutrix stated that she left the house of her mother on her own will; that the petitioner has been in custody since 17.03.2026; and that the conclusion of the trial is likely to take a sufficiently long time, the petitioner has positively made out grounds for the grant of regular bail.

6. Accordingly, the present petition is allowed.



7. The petitioner is ordered to be released on bail on her furnishing bail bonds and surety bonds to the satisfaction of learned trial Court/CJM/Duty Magistrate concerned.
8. Nothing observed here-in-above, shall be construed as an expression of opinion on the merits of the case which is pending before the learned trial Court.

18.05.2026
SN

(NEERJA K. KALSON)
JUDGE

Whether Speaking/Reasoned :	Yes/No
Whether Reportable :	Yes/No