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

CRM-M-71823-2025

Date of Decision:- 09.04.2026

Deepak Kumar @ Deepak Rai

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab and another

...Respondents

CORAM:-HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE AMARJOT BHATTI

Present: Mr. Neeraj Jain, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Jasjit Singh Rattu, DAG, Punjab.

AMARJOT BHATTI, J.

1. Petitioner Deepak Kumar alias Deepak Rai has filed 2nd petition under Section 483 of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 for grant of regular bail in FIR No. 54 dated 29.03.2024 under Section 363, 366-A, 370, 370-A, 372, 120-B, 376 of IPC (Section 3 and 4 of POCSO Act, 2012 added later on) registered at Police Station City Muktsar, District Sri Muktsar Sahib (Annexure P-1).

2. As per facts of the case, complainant 'NS alias B' gave his statement that he is father of two daughters and a son. The victim 'JK' age about 17 years was studying in Class 12th in Government Girls Senior Secondary School, Bathinda Road, Sri Muktsar Sahib. On 24.01.2024, she was to appear in her last examination and she had gone to the school by



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auto. After examination, she did not reach home. He and his family members searched for his daughter but could not locate her. They came to know that after her examination, she was kidnapped by someone by giving her allurements of marriage. With these allegations, initially FIR was registered under Sections 363 and 366-A of IPC.

3. As per status report, investigation was started. The complainant suffered supplementary statement on 31.03.2024 and named Deepak Kumar, Raj Kaur, Karan Singh and another Raj Kaur, Karan Kumar, Mahla Ram and 3-4 other unknown persons were operating child trafficking network. The complainant stated that his daughter was trapped by Deepak Kumar and others and was sold to Akhi Ram. Vide Rapat No.28 dated 31.03.2024, offence under Sections 370, 370-A, 372 and 120-B of IPC were added. During investigation, Deepak Kumar and Raj Kaur d/o Surjan Singh were arrested on 31.03.2024. On 02.04.2024, raid was conducted at the house of co-accused Raj Kaur w/o Balwinder Singh. Accused were arrested and during interrogation of Raj Kaur, Karamjit Kaur was also nominated as one of the accused. On 02.04.2024, Deepak and Raj Kaur suffered disclosure statement that the victim was sold at Bikaner through co-accused Karan Kumar. The police conducted raid at the house of Karan Kumar @ Rakesh Kumar on 04.04.2024 and the victim/prosecutrix was recovered. Statement of victim under Section 164 Cr.P.C. was recorded and offence under Section 376 of IPC and Sections 3 and 4 POCSO Act, 2012 were added vide Rapat No.52 dated 04.04.2024. The investigation was completed and thereafter accused apprehended in this case were accordingly challaned.



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4. Learned counsel representing petitioner argued that he is falsely implicated in this case to harass and defame him in society. Present petitioner has not played any role in said occurrence. Petitioner is behind the bars since 31.03.2024. Trial in this case may take long time. At present, statements of material witnesses, namely, 'NS @ B' as PW-1 and victim as PW-2 have been recorded. Their statements are Annexure P-3. Learned counsel representing petitioner pointed out that qua present petitioner, victim as PW-2 did not support allegations. Earlier he had filed regular bail petition bearing CRM-M-49367-2024 which was declined along with connected bail petition by this Court vide order dated 07.11.2025 (Annexure P-4). Petitioner is ready to abide by terms of bail order. Therefore, his regular bail petition may be allowed.

5. Bail petition is opposed by learned counsel representing State of Punjab. As per status report, victim involved in this case was minor. Statement of victim recorded under Section 164 Cr.P.C. is Annexure R-2 and her supplementary statement is Annexure R-3 in which victim has given detail of occurrence and petitioner is also specifically named. Apart from petitioner, other co-accused are also involved. Considering the gravity of offence, petitioner is not entitled to be released on bail and first regular bail petition was rightly declined by this Court.

6. I have considered the arguments and have gone through the record carefully. It is matter of record that first regular bail petition bearing CRM-M-49367-2024 filed by Deepak Kumar @ Deepak Rai was declined along with connected case vide order dated 07.11.2025 (Annexure P-4) and

within a period of about one month, second regular bail petition has been



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filed with same facts and circumstances of case. In the case in hand, victim involved in this case is minor. She left the house on 24.01.2024 and was finally recovered and her statement was recorded before the Magistrate on 04.04.2024 under Section 164 Cr.P.C. (Annexure R-2). There was supplementary statement of 'NS @ B' father of victim (Annexure R-1), where he named accused persons along with 3-4 unknown accused who were operating a racket of child trafficking. There is detailed supplementary statement of victim (Annexure R-3) and in that statement, present petitioner and other co-accused are named. Trial in this case is going on. In the case in hand, present petitioner along with six other accused is facing trial. Testimony of victim has been recorded along with other witnesses. Case will be decided on merits on the basis of evidence led before the trial Court. Considering the gravity of offence and manner in which it has been committed, I do not find a fit case for grant of regular bail to petitioner Deepak Kumar @ Deepak Rai and second regular bail petition filed by him is, accordingly dismissed.

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

09.04.2026

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(AMARJOT BHATTI)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned:
Whether reportable:

Yes/No
Yes/No