



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

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CRM-M-64772-2024

Date of decision : 25.08.2025

Mangal Singh @ Nandi

.....Petitioner

versus

State of Punjab and another

.....Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE NAMIT KUMAR

Present: Ms. Puja Chopra, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Adhiraj Singh, A.A.G., Punjab.

Mr. Lakshay Bector, Advocate with
Mr. Raman Kumar, Advocate for the complainant.

NAMIT KUMAR, J. (ORAL)

1. The petitioner has filed the instant petition under Section 483 of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 seeking grant of regular bail in case FIR No.177 dated 23.10.2024 registered under Sections 64, 78 & 351 of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 at Police Station Sidhwan Bet, District Ludhiana.

2. Status report by way of an affidavit of Sh. Jasjyot Singh, PPS, DSP, Jagron, District Ludhiana (Rural), on behalf of the respondent-State, filed in the Registry is taken on record.

3. Brief facts of the case are that on 23.10.2024, the prosecutrix made a statement before the police that she was married to Gurpreet Singh about 8 years back and has three children from the wedlock. Mangal Singh @ Nandi (the present petitioner) is residing adjoining to her house with whom she had developed illicit relation. He

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had clicked her obscene photographs in his mobile with her consent and their relations remained for about one year. About six months ago, she asked the petitioner to break up the relationship and put his mobile number in block list. He used to call her on other different numbers and threatened her that if she did not continue the relation with him then he will viral her photographs. The petitioner, who used to send her husband Gurpreet Singh for work outside Jagraon etc. visited her house and committed rape upon her. Due to fear of her insult, she used to give her consent. On 16.09.2024, she went to Dubai and put his all mobile numbers in block list. The petitioner sent some recording of filthy abuses to her on her Whatsapp number of Dubai and she returned on 18.10.2024.

4. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the petitioner is innocent and has been falsely implicated in the present case. She submits that the relationship between the petitioner and the prosecutrix was consensual in nature which has been admitted by the prosecutrix in her statement dated 18.04.2025 recorded before the Trial Court. The prosecutrix has also submitted that the petitioner used to click her photographs and prepared obscene videos with her consent. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that neither any nude photograph or video has been circulated by the petitioner nor there is any material evidence on record with regard to these photographs/videos. She further submits that the petitioner is behind the bars since 24.10.2024 and is not involved in any other case. She also submits that investigation in the present case is complete; challan stands



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presented; charges have been framed and out of total 12 prosecution witnesses, 05 have been examined so far. The trial is likely to take a considerable time to conclude and therefore, no fruitful purpose would be served by detaining the petitioner behind the bars.

5. Per contra, learned State counsel assisted by learned counsel for the complainant, while referring to the averments made in the status report, has vehemently opposed the prayer for grant of regular bail to the petitioner on the ground that the allegations against the petitioner are serious in nature. However, he could not refute the factual position that out of total 12 prosecution witnesses, 05 have been examined so far. He has also filed custody certificate dated 23.08.2025 in the Court which is taken on record. As per the custody certificate, the petitioner is behind the bars since more than last nine months.

6. I have heard learned counsel for the parties and perused the record.

7. Keeping in view the custody period of the petitioner which is 09 months and 29 days and the facts that the prosecutrix herself admitted the fact that the relationship between her and the petitioner was consensual; challan has been presented; charges have been framed and out of total 12 prosecution witnesses, 05 have been examined so far; the petitioner is not involved in any other case and the trial may take a considerable time to conclude, therefore, the petitioner is ordered to be released on regular bail during trial on his furnishing bail bonds/surety bonds to the satisfaction of Illaqa Magistrate/Trial Court.

8. The petition stands disposed of accordingly.



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9. However, anything observed hereinabove shall not be treated as an expression of opinion on the merits of the case and is meant for the purpose of deciding the present petition only.

25.08.2025

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**(NAMIT KUMAR)
JUDGE**

Whether speaking/reasoned:

Yes/No

Whether Reportable:

Yes/No