IN THE HIGH COURT OF JHARKHAND AT RANCHI B.A. No. 12447 of 2022

Rajesh Rana ... Petitioner

-versus-

The State of Jharkhand ... Opposite Party

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ANANDA SEN

For the Petitioner: Mr. Ashok Kumar Singh, Advocate For the State: Mr. Shailendra Kumar Tiwari, A.P.P.

03/ 24.01.2023 Heard learned counsel for the petitioner and learned A.P.P. for the State.

Petitioner is an accused for allegedly committing offence punishable under Sections 341, 323, 384, 386, 504, 506, 34 of the Indian Penal Code, Section 6 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act and Section 67(A) of the Information Technology Act, in connection with Barhi Police Station Case No.213 of 2019 corresponding to Spl. POCSO Case No.11 of 2022, pending in the Court of learned Additional Sessions Judge III cum Special Judge POCSO Act, Hazaribagh.

Learned A.P.P. appearing for the State submits that thrice the police went to the house of the victim, but the victim was not found, thus, she was not examined.

Prayer for bail of the petitioner was earlier rejected. He is in custody since 30.12.2021. Due to inaction of the prosecution, the victim was not examined, though there was a direction by this Court vide order dated 08.12.2022.

Because of inaction of the prosecution, petitioner cannot be kept in custody for indefinite period. Accordingly, petitioner, namely, Rajesh Rana, is directed to be released on bail on furnishing bail bond of Rs.10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand) with two sureties of the like amount each to the satisfaction of the Additional Sessions Judge III cum Special Judge POCSO Act, Hazaribagh in connection with Barhi Police Station Case No.213 of 2019 corresponding to Spl. POCSO Case No.11 of 2022, with a condition that the petitioner will appear before the Trial Court once in every two months and mark his attendance, failing which, the Trial Court shall be at liberty to take all coercive steps against the petitioner.