

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

CRM-M No. 4120 of 2016 (O&M)

Date of Decision: 24.02.2016

Gurmeet Singh alias Billa

..... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

..... Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JASWANT SINGH

Present: Mrs. Shivani Singla, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mz. Rimplejeet Kaur, AAG, Punjab
for the respondent/State assisted by ASI Balvir Singh.

JASWANT SINGH, J. (ORAL)

Prayer is for grant of regular bail on behalf of the accused/petitioner in case FIR No. 61, dated 03.07.2014, for offences punishable under Sections 307, 308, 324, 323, 341, 427, 148 and 149 of the Indian Penal Code, registered at Police Station Bhikhi, District Mansa.

The accused/petitioner-Gurmeet Singh alias Billa was enlarged on regular bail by this Court vide order dated 13.10.2014 (Annexure P-1) after having remained in custody for almost three months. Due to his solitary non-appearance on 24.07.2015 before the trial Court, his bail bonds were cancelled and non-bailable warrants were issued.

It is contended that non-appearance of the petitioner on the said date was on account of his illness and subsequently, the petitioner himself surrendered on 05.10.2015 and is in custody since then. It is next submitted that only four, out of fourteen prosecution witnesses have since been examined.

Learned State Counsel, assisted by ASI Balvir Singh, does not refute the aforesaid factual position.

Without commenting on the merits of the case, keeping in view the facts noticed above and custody period of the petitioner, no useful purpose would be served by keeping the petitioner/accused in custody since the trial is not likely to be concluded in near future, the present petition is allowed and the petitioner is ordered to be released on bail subject to satisfaction of Chief Judicial Magistrate/Duty Magistrate, Mansa.

February 24, 2016

'dk kamra'

**(JASWANT SINGH)
JUDGE**