

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

**CRM-M-22064-2018 (O&M)
Date of Decision: 22.5.2018**

Bikramjit Singh

.....PETITIONER(s).

VERSUS

State of Punjab

....RESPONDENT(s).

CORAM:- HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE RAJ SHEKHAR ATTRI

Present: Mr. Jatin Khullar, Advocate
for the petitioner.

RAJ SHEKHAR ATTRI, J.(Oral)

The present petition has been filed under Section 438 Code of Criminal Procedure for grant of anticipatory bail to the petitioner in case FIR No.71 dated 16.4.2014 registered for the offences punishable under Sections 21, 22 of Narcotic Drugs & Psychotropic Substances Act at Police Station Sadar Amritsar, District Amritsar.

Heard.

Briefly stated the case of the prosecution is that on 16.4.2014, five grams of heroin and 210 grams of intoxicant powder was recovered from the petitioner. On analysis by Forensic Science Laboratory, it was detected that powder contained Diphenoxylate Hydrchloride which falls within the commercial quantity.

In a recent judgment Hon'ble the Supreme Court in case **Satpal**

with regard to bail in commercial quantity of the contraband which read as under:-

“3. Section 37 of the NDPS Act reads as follows :-

“Offences to be cognizable and non-bailable – (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (2 of 1974) -

(a) every offence punishable under this Act shall be cognizable;

(b) no person accused of an offence punishable for [offences under section 19 or section 24 or section 27A and also for offences involving commercial quantity] shall be released on bail or on his own bond unless -

(i) the Public Prosecutor has been given an opportunity to oppose the application for such release, and

(ii) where the Public Prosecutor opposes the application, the court is satisfied that there are reasonable grounds for believing that he is not guilty of such offence and that he is not likely to commit any offence while on bail. (2) The limitations on granting of bail specified in clause (b) of subsection (1) are in addition to the limitations under the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (2 of 1974) or any other law for the time being in force, on granting of bail.]” (Emphasis supplied)

4. Under Section 37 of the NDPS Act, when a person is accused of an offence punishable under Section 19 or 24 or 27A and also for offences involving commercial quantity, he shall not be released on bail unless the Public Prosecutor has been given an opportunity to oppose the application for such release, and in case a Public Prosecutor opposes the application, the court must be satisfied that there are reasonable grounds for believing that the person is not guilty of the alleged offence and that he is not likely to commit any offence while on bail. Materials on record are to be seen and

the antecedents of the accused is to be examined to enter such a satisfaction. These limitations are in addition to those prescribed under the Cr.P.C or any other law in force on the grant of bail. In view of the seriousness of the offence, the law makers have consciously put such stringent restrictions on the discretion available to the court while considering application for release of a person on bail.”

Keeping in view the above, the petitioner is not entitled to the benefit of anticipatory bail.

Dismissed.

(RAJ SHEKHAR ATTRI)
JUDGE

May 22, 2018
Paritosh Kumar

<i>Whether speaking/reasoned:</i>	<i>Yes/No</i>
<i>Whether Reportable:</i>	<i>Yes/No</i>