

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

CRM-M-44916-2017 (O&M)

Date of decision: 20.02.2018

Gurdev Singh

... Petitioner

Vs.

State of Punjab

... Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE TEJINDER SINGH DHINDSA.

Present: Mr. Rituraj Singh, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Atinder Pal Singh Jaurkian, AAG, Punjab.

...

TEJINDER SINGH DHINDSA, J. (ORAL).

Petitioner seeks benefit of regular bail pending trial in case FIR No.30, dated 20.04.2016, under Section 15/61/85 of the NDPS Act, registered at Police Station Sadar Nabha, District Patiala.

Counsel for the parties have been heard at length.

Keeping in view the serious allegations i.e. the alleged recovery of 150 kgs of poppy husk from the present petitioner and coupled with the fact that the petitioner is a previous convict under NDPS Act, this Court is not inclined to extend in favour of the petitioner concession of regular bail.

Be that as it may, petitioner has faced incarceration since 20.04.2016.

Charges were framed as far back as on 29.10.2016.

Since trial has not made any progress, status report from the trial Court was sought regarding progress of trial.

In compliance of the directions issued by this Court, placed on record is a status report dated 05.02.2018 from the learned District and

Sessions Judge, Patiala and the same has been perused.

It so transpires that the trial has lingered on for the reason that prosecution witnesses have not come forth for recording of their deposition. That apart, Jail Authorities have not even produced the accused/present petitioner on a number of occasions.

While declining to intervene in the instant petition, directions are issued to the trial Court to make an earnest endeavour to expedite the trial proceedings and in any case to conclude the same within a period of six months from today.

Disposed of.

20.02.2018

harjeet

**(TEJINDER SINGH DHINDSA)
JUDGE**

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| i) | Whether speaking/reasoned? | Yes/No |
| ii) | Whether reportable? | Yes/No |