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IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

CRM-M No.748 of 2018
Date of Decision: 16.01.2018

Manpreet Singh @ Manu

..... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

..... Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUDIP AHLUWALIA

Present: Mr. Vivek Salathia, Advocate,
for the petitioner.

Mr. Luvinder Sofat, A.A.G., Punjab.

SUDIP AHLUWALIA, J. (ORAL)

In this petition, the petitioner seeks his release on regular bail in F.I.R. No.108, dated 19.09.2014, under Sections 22/61/85 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985, and Section 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985, added later on, registered at Police Station Raja Sansi, District Amritsar.

2. The petitioner was originally on regular bail, which was granted to him during pendency of investigation. He, however, absented from the proceedings after submission of charge-sheet, on account of which initially non-bailable warrants of arrests were issued against him, followed

by coercive process for proclamation. He was subsequently declared a proclaimed offender on 11.07.2016, and subsequently re-arrested on 16.10.2017.

3. It has been submitted that the petitioner was not aware of completion of investigation and had received no notice of the same, nor any Police Officer ever came to arrest him.

4. Admittedly, the contraband recovered from the petitioner was much below the commercial limit. There is no record of his involvement in any other case under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985.

5. As such, considering the detention of three months undergone by the petitioner subsequent to his re-arrest at this stage, the present petition is allowed and the petitioner, namely Manpreet Singh @ Manu son of Mukhtiar Singh, is directed to be released on fresh bail subject to appropriate terms and conditions to the satisfaction of the Ld. Trial Court/Illaq Magistrate, concerned.

16.01.2018

Apurva

**(SUDIP AHLUWALIA)
JUDGE**

1. Whether speaking/ reasoned : Yes/ No

2. Whether reportable : Yes/ No