

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

209

CRM-M-2338-2020

Date of decision : 20.07.2020.

Budh Ram

... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

.. Respondent

CORAM :HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ANUPINDER SINGH GREWAL

Present:- Mr. Kulbhushan Raheja, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Sidakmeet Sandhu, AAG, Punjab.

Anupinder Singh Grewal, J. (Oral)

The petitioner is seeking regular bail in FIR No.86, dated 08.06.2019, under Sections 15, 25 & 29 of the NDPS Act, registered at Police Station Dhanaula, District Barnala.

Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that it is alleged in the FIR that recovery of 500 kg. of poppy husk was effected from co-accused, who was named in the FIR. He further contends that the petitioner is not named in the FIR and has been arraigned as an accused on the statement of co-accused that the petitioner was to buy poppy husk from him and he had paid ₹50,000/- for this purpose. He also contends that the petitioner is in custody for over eight months and is not involved in any other case under the NDPS Act.

Learned State counsel has filed custody certificate, which indicates that the petitioner is in custody for 08 months and 09 days as on 19.07.2020. He contends that although the challan has been filed but no prosecution witness has been examined.

Heard through video conferencing.

In view of the submissions of the learned counsel for the petitioner especially when the petitioner is in custody for over eight months; he is not involved in any other case under the NDPS Act; the Covid-19 pandemic and the conclusion of the trial is likely to take sometime, I deem it a fit case to grant the concession of regular bail to the petitioner.

Therefore, without expressing any opinion on the merits of the case, the instant petition is allowed. The petitioner is ordered to be released on regular bail on his furnishing requisite bonds to the satisfaction of the trial Court/Duty Magistrate concerned.

(ANUPINDER SINGH GREWAL)
JUDGE

July 20, 2020
sonia gugnani

Whether speaking/reasoned	:	Yes/No
Whether Reportable	:	Yes/No