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IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

CRM-M No.2724 of 2020(O&M)
DATE OF DECISION:05.03.2020

Manjeet Singh

...Petitioner

Vs.

State of Haryana

...Respondent

CORAM:- HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE LALIT BATRA

Present: Mr. Naveen Thakur, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Arun Beniwal, Deputy Advocate General, Haryana.

LALIT BATRA, J. (Oral)

Present petition under Section 439 Cr.P.C is for grant of regular bail to petitioner-**Manjeet Singh** in case F.I.R. No.287 dated 18.08.2019 under Sections 18 and 25 of NDPS Act, registered at Police Station Madhuban, District Karnal.

Learned counsel for the petitioner *inter alia* contends that petitioner has no nexus whatsoever with the alleged offence and even otherwise alleged recovery of contraband i.e. opium weighing 01 kilogram 06 grams falls in non-commercial quantity. He further submits that co-accused namely Hardeep Singh @ Deepu has already been released on bail by this Court, vide order dated 20.12.2019. He further submits that petitioner is in custody since 18.08.2019 and he is no more required by the Police for any investigation purpose. He further submits that after completion of investigation, challan has been presented in the Court and

trial has already commenced. He further urges that since trial of the case would take sufficient time to conclude, no useful purpose would be served by keeping the petitioner in custody further and he may be released on bail.

On the other hand, learned State counsel while opposing instant petition has vehemently argued that keeping in view seriousness of offence, petitioner does not deserve the concession of bail.

I have heard learned counsel for the parties.

At this stage, without commenting anything on the merits of the case lest it may prejudice the outcome of the trial but taking into consideration the fact that petitioner is in custody since 18.08.2019; that challan has been presented against the petitioner in the Court; that trial has already commenced and since trial of the case would take sufficient time to conclude, no useful purpose would be served by detaining the petitioner in custody further, thus, he deserves the concession of bail.

In view of above, instant petition for grant of regular bail moved by petitioner- **Manjeet Singh** is allowed and he is ordered to be released on bail on his furnishing personal/surety bonds to the satisfaction of Trial Court/Chief Judicial Magistrate/Duty Magistrate, Karnal, as the case may be.

(LALIT BATRA)
JUDGE

05.03.2020
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Whether speaking/reasoned:	Yes/No
Whether reportable:	Yes/No