

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

**CRM-M No.6668 of 2020
Date of Decision : 29.09.2020**

Akash

.....Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

.....Respondent

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUDIP AHLUWALIA

Present : Mr. Jaswinder Singh, Advocate
for the Petitioner.

Mr. Ramandeep S. Sandhu, Sr. Dy. Advocate General, Punjab
for the Respondent/State.

SUDIP AHLUWALIA, J. (ORAL)

The instant Petition has been filed under Section 439 of the Code of Criminal Procedure seeking Regular Bail on behalf of the Petitioner in case FIR No.214, dated 31st October, 2019, registered under Sections 22, 25, 61 of the NDPS Act, 1985, at Police Station City Jagraon, District Ludhiana Rural, Punjab.

2. The Petitioner was arrested on 31st October, 2019.
3. Ld. State Counsel on instructions from ASI Balraj Singh submits that after completion of investigation, Challan against the Petitioner has already been submitted on 15th June, 2019. However, the Trial thereafter could not commence due to the prevalence of the on-going Covid-19 Pandemic and even the Charges have not yet been framed.
4. From the Custody Certificate of the Petitioner, it is verified that

he is not involved in any other case under the NDPS Act, on account of which, this Court is of the opinion that he is not likely to commit a similar offence, if released on bail, at this stage.

5. In the circumstances, without commenting upon the other merits of the case and keeping in view the fact that the trial is likely to take a considerable time to conclude in view of the on-going Covid-19 Pandemic, at this stage, this Court is of the opinion that further detention of the Petitioner for an indefinite period is not justified. As such, he is ordered to be released on bail subject to the satisfaction of the Ld. Trial Court/Duty Magistrate concerned.

6. Disposed off.

September 29, 2020
Dpr

(SUDIP AHLUWALIA)
JUDGE

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