

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

204

CRM-M-16403-2020

Date of decision: 13.07.2020

Bikkar Singh

....Petitioner

versus

State of Punjab

....Respondent

CORAM: Hon'ble Mr. Justice Girish Agnihotri

Present: Mr. Parminder Singh Sekhon, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Pawan Sharda, Sr. DAG, Punjab.

GIRISH AGNIHOTRI, J. (Oral)

The matter has been taken up through video-conferencing on account of lockdown due to outbreak of pandemic COVID-19.

Petitioner-Bikkar Singh, stated to be aged 25 years, has filed the present petition *inter alia* with a prayer for grant of regular bail in case FIR No.218 dated 14.12.2018, registered under Sections 22 & 29 of NDPS Act, at Police Station Sadar Dhuri, District Sangrur.

Learned counsel for the petitioner, at the outset, submits that as per the allegations in the FIR, co-accused Jaspal Singh travelling on motorcycle was stopped by an officer on barricading near Grain Market, Dadhokal with 1499 tablets of Clovidol 100-SR. He submits that no alleged recovery has been effected from the conscious possession of the petitioner and he has been falsely implicated in the present case. He submits that the

petitioner is in custody since 28.12.2019. He further submits that the said co-accused namely Jaspal Singh has been granted regular bail by this court vide order dated 16.06.2020, passed in CRM-M-13736-2020.

Learned State counsel submits that there are total 16 witnesses and out of them, only two have been examined till date. It is also stated by learned State counsel that the next date of hearing before the Lower Court is 17.07.2020.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that due to the present COVID situation, the trial is likely to take some time and detention of the petitioner in jail would be dangerous to his life, hence, the petitioner may be granted concession of regular bail.

In view of the peculiar facts and circumstance as noticed above, considering the existing situation due to COVID and the fact that trial is likely to take time, this Court deems it appropriate to direct release of the petitioner on regular bail to the satisfaction of trial Court/Duty Magistrate concerned, subject to his furnishing bail/surety bonds. However, it is made clear that anything observed herein shall not be construed as an expression on merits of the case.

The petition stands disposed of accordingly.

(GIRISH AGNIHOTRI)
JUDGE

13.07.2020

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Whether speaking/ reasoned:

Yes/No

Whether Reportable:

Yes/No