

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

CRM-M-18845-2020(O&M)

Date of decision: 16.09.2020

Ranjit Singh @ Sonu Bengali

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

.....Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HARNARESH SINGH GILL

Present:- Mr. Narash Gopal Sharma, Advocate, and
Mr. Vishal Mehta, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Sidakmeet Sandhu, AAG Punjab.

HARNARESH SINGH GILL, J. (ORAL)

Case is taken up for hearing through video conferencing.

The petitioner has filed this petition under Section 439 of Cr.P.C. for grant of regular bail in case FIR No. 33 dated 19.06.2019 registered under Sections 22 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985, at Police Station Sarai Amant Khan, District Tarn Taran.

Learned counsel for the petitioner states that the recovery effected from the petitioner was 254 grams of intoxicant powder, when weighed on an electronic weighing machine, with plastic cover. The recovered contraband is marginally above the commercial quantity. The petitioner has been in custody for the last more than 1 year and there is no other case against him.

Copy of custody certificate by way of affidavit dated 16.09.2020 of Deputy Superintendent, Central Jail, Amritsar, submitted by the learned State counsel through email is taken on record. Learned State counsel points out that the recovery effected from the petitioner is of commercial quantity. The challan has been presented and charges have been framed, but the prosecution witnesses are yet to be examined.

I have heard the learned counsel for the parties.

The petitioner has been in custody since 20.06.2019 and the prosecution witnesses are yet to be examined. There is no other case against the petitioner. The trial will take time to conclude and no useful purpose would be served by keeping the petitioner behind the bars.

In view of the above, without commenting anything on the merits, lest it should prejudice the case of either side, the petition is allowed and the petitioner is ordered to be released on regular bail to the satisfaction of the learned trial Court/Duty Magistrate.

(HARNARESH SINGH GILL)
JUDGE

16.09.2020

Mangal Singh

Whether reasoned/speaking?
Whether reportable?

Yes/No
Yes/No