

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

Sr. No.213

CRM-M-18678-2020

DATE OF DECISION: 02.09.2020

PRITAM SINGH

...PETITIONER

VERSUS

STATE OF PUNJAB

...RESPONDENT

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUDHIR MITTAL

Present: Mr. O.P. Kamboj, Advocate, for the petitioner.

Mr. Rana Harjasdeep Singh, DAG, Punjab.

SUDHIR MITTAL, J. (ORAL)

The petitioner seeks grant of regular bail in case FIR No. 02 dated 02.01.2020 registered at Police Station Shahkot, District Jalandhar Rural under Section 22/29 of the NDPS Act, 1985.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the petitioner has been in custody since 04.01.2020. The trial is not likely to be concluded at an early date as charges have not yet been framed. The petitioner has been falsely implicated in this case which is evident from the fact that three earlier cases under the NDPS Act, 1985 were registered against him in quick succession. In the first case, the petitioner was granted regular bail, whereas in the other 02 cases, he was granted anticipatory bail by this Court. The petitioner is being falsely implicated on account of political vendetta.

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Custody certificate dated 01.09.2020 has been submitted in Court. The same is taken on record. According to this certificate, the petitioner has undergone actual custody of 07 months and 28 days and there is one case under the NDPS Act, 1985 pending against him.

A status report dated 26.08.2020 has also been placed on record on behalf of the State. According to the status report, the petitioner was named as an accused on the disclosure statement of the main accused who stated that the contraband had been purchased from the petitioner. However, nothing has been stated in response to the specific allegations in paras 9, 10 & 11 of the petition regarding how the petitioner is being implicated on account of political vendetta.

Learned State counsel concedes that the charges have not yet been framed.

Thus, it is evident that the trial is not likely to be concluded at an early date. The circumstances brought on record indicate that there is a possibility of the petitioner having been falsely implicated. The petitioner has already been in custody for 07 months and 28 days and considering all the factors cumulatively, I deem it appropriate to grant him regular bail.

Accordingly, the petition is allowed and the petitioner is directed to be released on regular bail on his furnishing bail and surety bonds to the satisfaction of the trial Court/Duty Magistrate concerned.

02.09.2020

Ankur

**(SUDHIR MITTAL)
JUDGE**

Whether speaking/reasoned

Yes/No

Whether Reportable

Yes/No