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

**CRM-M-20916-2020
Date of Decision: 07.09.2020**

Baldev Singh

..... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

..... Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUDIP AHLUWALIA

Present: Mr. Gurpal Singh Sandhu, Advocate,
for the petitioner.

Mr. Randhir Thind, DAG, Punjab.

SUDIP AHLUWALIA, J. (ORAL)

This is the second petition filed under Section 439 Cr.P.C. on behalf of the petitioner for regular bail in case FIR No.064 dated 12.11.2016, under Section 21 of the N.D.P.S. Act, registered at Police Station Khalra, District Tarn Taran.

[2]. In the previous order passed on 30.07.2020, the dates of 04.09.2020 and 11.09.2020 had been typed at wrong places. In fact, the date of 04.09.2020 ought to have been typed in the 1st paragraph and 11.09.2020 should have been typed in the 2nd paragraph as the adjourned date of the said order.

[3]. Anyway, the matter has been listed today by the Registry because this Court was not available on the stipulated date mentioned in the previous order, i.e., 04.09.2020, whereas after carrying out necessary correction, the matter should have been listed on 11.09.2020 but even if the matter is listed on that date, there will be no change in the circumstances, as

such, the matter is being heard today, itself.

[4]. Seen the zimni order of 04.09.2020 passed by the Ld. Trial Judge, in terms of previous order, from which, it transpires that again the matter has been adjourned to 06.10.2020 as neither the accused persons were produced from custody nor there was any other progress of trial, in view of a general order of this Court dated 30.03.2020, on account of which, all trials have been ordered to be adjourned due to outbreak of Corona Virus.

[5]. In such circumstances, it is clear that the matter is not likely to be taken up for quite some time now till the situation normalizes.

[6]. The petitioner has by now remained in detention for almost 3 years and 10 months since 12.11.2016. There is no record of his involvement in any other case under the N.D.P.S. Act, as such, his further detention for an indefinite period is not justified.

[7]. For the aforesaid reasons and considering the long detention undergone by the petitioner and the fact that completion of trial is likely to take its own substantial time, at this stage, he is ordered to be released on an interim bail subject to appropriate terms and conditions to the satisfaction of the Ld. Trial Court/Duty Magistrate, concerned, which shall be operative till further orders by this Court.

[8]. Disposed off.

07.09.2020

Bhumika

**(SUDIP AHLUWALIA)
JUDGE**

1. Whether speaking/reasoned: Yes/No

2. Whether reportable: Yes/No