

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

Sr. No.212

CRM-M-26256-2020 (O&M)

Date of decision: 15.10.2020

Madan Lal

....Petitioner

versus

Union of India

....Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE DEEPAK SIBAL

Present: Mr. Charanpreet Singh, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Sanjay Vashisth, Advocate
for the respondent-NCB/UOI.

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DEEPAK SIBAL, J. (Oral)

Case taken up through video conferencing.

The present petition has been filed under Section 439 Cr.P.C. for the grant of regular bail in Complaint/Crime No.32 dated 29.06.2019 registered under Sections 20 and 29 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 filed by N.C.B. Zonal Unit, Chandigarh.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the petitioner has been falsely implicated in the present case; he has been in custody since 29.06.2019; there is no other criminal case in which the petitioner is involved; for the last 07 months no effective proceedings have taken place in the petitioner's trial and that since 10 prosecution witnesses still remain to be examined in the petitioner's trial, the same is not likely to conclude in the near future especially in the present circumstances when the world is facing the Covid-19 pandemic.

Learned counsel for NCB opposes the grant of bail on the ground that the petitioner has supplied 3.800 kgs of charas and since such offence is against the public at large he be denied the concession of bail.

The petitioner has been in custody since 29.06.2019; there is no other criminal case in which the petitioner is involved and since 10 prosecution witnesses still remain to be examined in the petitioner's trial, the same is not likely to conclude in the near future especially in the present circumstances when the world is facing the Covid-19 pandemic.

In view of the above, the present case is considered to be a fit one in which the petitioner be directed to be released on regular bail. Resultantly, subject to the satisfaction of the CJM/Duty Magistrate, Ludhiana, the petitioner is directed to be released on bail.

It is clarified that the above observations have been made only for the limited purpose of deciding the present regular bail application and the same would not be construed to be an expression of opinion on the merits of the case.

(DEEPAK SIBAL)
JUDGE

October 15, 2020
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Whether speaking/reasoned	Yes/No
Whether reportable	Yes/No