

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

CRM-M-27237-2020
Date of decision: 15.12.2020

Jasvir Singh

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARVIND SINGH SANGWAN

Present:- Mr. Sumeet Puri, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Joginder Pal Ratra, DAG, Punjab.

(Through Video Conferencing)

ARVIND SINGH SANGWAN, J. (Oral)

This petition has been filed under Section 439 of the Code of Criminal Procedure for grant of regular bail to the petitioner in case FIR No. 45 dated 30.06.2019, registered under Section 20 of the Narcotic Drugs & Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 at Police Station Ghagga, District Patiala.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that petitioner is in judicial custody for the period of last about 01 year and 05 months and despite the fact charges were framed on 17.12.2019, due to Covid-19 situation, no prosecution witness has been examined so far out of total 13 prosecution witnesses.

Learned counsel for the petitioner further submits that conclusion of trial is likely to take a long time, therefore, the petitioner may be enlarged on regular bail.

Learned State counsel has not disputed the factual position but

opposed the bail.

I have heard learned counsel for the parties.

Without commenting on the merits of the case, considering the fact that petitioner is in judicial custody for the last about 01 year, 05 months and due to Covid-19 situation, the conclusion of trial is likely to take some time, the present petition is disposed of and the petitioner is ordered to be released on interim bail till 28.05.2021, on his furnishing bail/surety bonds to the satisfaction of the trial Court/Duty Magistrate/Illaq Magistrate, concerned.

However, the trial Court, after assessing the situation, if the trial has not started in ordinary course and the evidence is recorded, may cancel or may continue the interim bail granted to the petitioner till further orders.

15.12.2020

Waseem Ansari

**(ARVIND SINGH SANGWAN)
JUDGE**

Whether speaking/reasoned

Yes/No

Whether reportable

Yes/No