

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

203

CRM-M-28177-2019

Date of decision : 15.10.2020.

Ashok Kumar

... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

.. Respondent

CORAM :HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ANUPINDER SINGH GREWAL

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

Mr. Dhruv Dayal, Senior DAG, Punjab.

Anupinder Singh Grewal, J. (Oral)

The petitioner is seeking regular bail in FIR No.20 dated 10.02.2019, under Sections 22, 61 and 85 of the NDPS Act, registered at Police Station Kotbhai, District Sri Muktsar Sahib.

Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that the allegations against the petitioner are that 2400 tablets of Alprazolam with a total weight of 344.59 grams were allegedly recovered from him. He also contends that the petitioner is in custody for over one year and eight months and is not involved in any other case under the NDPS Act.

Learned State counsel has filed custody certificate in Court through e-mail, which indicates that the petitioner is in custody for 01 year, 08 months and 02 days as on 14.10.2020. Learned State counsel, upon instructions from SI Sukhwinder Singh, contends that 02 out of 13 prosecution witnesses have been examined.

Heard through video conferencing.

In view of the submissions of the learned counsel for the petitioner, especially when the petitioner is in custody for over 01 year and 08 months, he is not involved in any other case under the NDPS Act, the COVID-19 pandemic, and the conclusion of the trial is likely to take some time, I deem it a fit case to grant the concession of regular bail to the petitioner.

Therefore, without expressing any opinion on the merits of the case, the instant petition is allowed. The petitioner is ordered to be released on regular bail on his furnishing requisite bonds to the satisfaction of the trial Court/Duty Magistrate concerned.

(ANUPINDER SINGH GREWAL)
JUDGE

October 15, 2020

sonia gugnani

Whether speaking/reasoned	:	Yes/No
Whether Reportable	:	Yes/No