

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

CRM-M-42772-2020

Date of Decision: 23.12.2020

SUKHMANDER SINGH

.....Petitioner

V/s.

STATE OF PUNJAB

.....Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE MANJARI NEHRU KAUL.

(Through Video Conferencing)

Present: Mr. Navneet Dhaliwal, Advocate,
for the petitioner.

Mr. Joginder Pal Ratra, DAG, Punjab.

MANJARI NEHRU KAUL, J. (Oral)

This is the second petition filed under Section 439 Cr.P.C. with a prayer for grant of regular bail to the petitioner in case FIR No.06 dated 09.01.2018 registered under Section 364 of the IPC, 1860(Sections 364-A, 379, 411 of the IPC, 1860 were added later on) at Police Station Gidderbaha, District Sri Muktsar Sahib.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the earlier petition which was dismissed as withdrawn on 22.10.2020, as the learned State counsel had submitted that 18 out of 21 witnesses cited had been examined by the trial Court. However, subsequently, the trial has come to a stand-still due to the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic. Hence, a prayer has been made for extending the concession of regular bail to the petitioner as he has been in custody since 10.01.2018.

Per contra, learned State counsel, while opposing the prayer and submissions made by learned counsel for the petitioner, on instructions from

ASI Nirmal Singh, has submitted that next date fixed before the trial Court is 12.01.2021 when the prosecution evidence is likely to conclude.

In the circumstances, as the trial admittedly is nearing conclusion, no ground is made out to extend the concession of regular bail to the petitioner, therefore the present petition is hereby dismissed. However, keeping in view the custody period of the petitioner, the trial Court is directed to expedite the trial and conclude the same preferably before 30.04.2021.

December 23, 2020

Ess Kay

**[MANJARI NEHRU KAUL]
JUDGE**

<i>Whether speaking / reasoned</i>	:	<i>Yes</i>	/	<i>No</i>
<i>Whether Reportable</i>	:	<i>Yes</i>	/	<i>No</i>