

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

CRM-M-43340-2019

Date of Decision: 06.11.2020

Shanky @ Shanky Jain

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE GURVINDER SINGH GILL

Present: Mr. Prashant Bansal, Advocate, for the petitioner.

Mr. Randhir S. Thind, DAG, Punjab.

(proceedings conducted through video conferencing)

GURVINDER SINGH GILL, J. (Oral)

1. The petitioner seeks grant of regular bail in a case registered against him vide FIR No.71 dated 27.03.2018 registered at Police Station Patran, District Patiala, under Section 22 of the Narcotic Drugs Psychotropic Substance Act, 1985, wherein it has alleged that the petitioner was found in possession of non-commercial quantity of Tramadol Hydrochloride.
2. The Learned State counsel has informed that 10 PWs out of 12 cited PWs have been examined.
3. In view of the aforesaid position, this Court does not deem it appropriate to grant regular bail to the petitioner at this stage particularly bearing in mind the quantity of the contraband recovered and that the trial is at its fag end. However, the trial Court is directed to take necessary steps as may be possible during the present times on account of spread of pandemic for expediting the trial provided that

counsel for the accused extends full cooperation for the same. In case, any prosecution or defence witness is to be examined, the trial Court may record such statement either by physical process, if found safe and convenient subject to adherence of all the safeguards as prescribed by the Health Authorities or may explore the possibility of recording the same through video conferencing subject to the condition that defence counsel extends utmost cooperation for the same. The petition is thus disposed off with the aforesaid directions.

(GURVINDER SINGH GILL)
JUDGE

06.11.2020

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Whether speaking/reasoned: **Yes/No**
Whether reportable: **Yes/No**