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

**CRM-M-44023-2019
Date of Decision: 08.09.2020**

Ajay

..... Petitioner

Versus

State of Haryana

..... Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUDIP AHLUWALIA

Present: Mr. Kamal Sharma, Advocate,
for the petitioner.

Mr. Anmol Malik, DAG, Haryana.

SUDIP AHLUWALIA, J. (ORAL)

The instant petition has been filed under Section 439 of the Code of Criminal Procedure by the petitioner, seeking regular bail in case FIR No.477 dated 20.08.2019, under Section 22(c) of the NDPS Act, registered at Police Station Jind City, District Jind.

2. The petitioner has remained in detention for more than a year, since 20.08.2019.

3. It transpires that challan against the petitioner was submitted long ago after completion of the investigation and even two prosecution witnesses had been examined as far back as on 18.02.2020. Thereafter, the trial has, however, become stalled on account of the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic. In the given circumstances, it is likely to take its own substantial time for reaching its completion. There is no record of the petitioner's involvement in

any other case under the NDPS Act. He, therefore, deserves to be treated at par with co-accused Ashish, who was granted bail by this Court on 17.06.2020 in CRM-M-13927-2020.

4. As such, without commenting any further on the merits of the present case as a whole, the prayer of the petitioner for his release on regular bail is allowed and he is ordered to be released on regular bail, subject to the appropriate terms and conditions to the satisfaction of the Ld. Trial Court/Duty Magistrate, concerned.

5. Disposed off.

08.09.2020

Apurva

**(SUDIP AHLUWALIA)
JUDGE**

1. Whether speaking/reasoned: Yes/No
2. Whether reportable: Yes/No