

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

**CRM-M No.45002 of 2019 (O&M)
Date of decision : 13.03.2020**

Monu Bahadur

..... Petitioner

versus

State of Punjab

..... Respondent

CORAM : HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE AJAY TEWARI

Present : Mr. J.S.Dadwal, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. H.S.Sullar, DAG, Punjab.

AJAY TEWARI, J. (Oral)

This petition has been filed under Section 439 Cr.P.C. for grant of regular bail to the petitioner in case F.I.R. No.0197 dated 23.08.2018 registered under Section 22 of the NDPS Act, 1985 at Police Station Sadar Khanna, District Khanna.

Learned counsel for the petitioner states that the petitioner has been in custody for the last more than one and a half year. He further states that the petitioner is an Auto Driver. When the police stopped the Auto there were three passengers in the vehicle also and as per the petitioner he had no knowledge about the drugs which has been secreted behind the seat of the passengers.

In my opinion, this argument could be used by all the four persons who were in the Auto at that time.

Learned Deputy Advocate General on instructions from Investigating Officer states that only 1 witness has been examined and 11 official witnesses remained to be examined and the next date is fixed for 18.03.2020 and instead of releasing the petitioner on bail, it would be appropriate to put a time cap on the trial and in case the accused does not obstruct the trial the prosecution will lead its entire evidence on or before 29.05.2020 and till such time the bail should not be granted to the petitioner.

I find this to be a fair submission. In the circumstances, in view of the undertaking given by the learned Deputy Advocate General, it is directed that in case the prosecution does not lead its entire evidence on or before 29.05.2020 (subject to the accused not obstructing the same) the petitioner be released on bail to the satisfaction of the trial Court.

Petition stands disposed of in the above terms.

Since the main case has been decided, the pending criminal miscellaneous application, if any, also stands disposed of.

13.03.2020

Pooja sharma-I

**(AJAY TEWARI)
JUDGE**

Whether speaking/reasoned

Yes/No

Whether Reportable :

Yes/No