

**203-2 IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH**

**CRM-M No.50934 of 2019
Date of Decision:30.09.2020**

JAGTAR SINGH

...Petitioners

Versus

STATE OF PUNJAB

..Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HARNARESH SINGH GILL

Present: Mr. P.S. Sekhon, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Pawan Sharda, Sr. DAG, Punjab.

HARNARESH SINGH GILL, J. (ORAL)

Case is taken up for hearing through video conferencing.

Petitioner has filed this petition under Section 439 of Cr.P.C.
for grant of regular bail in case FIR No.68 dated 13.5.2019 registered under
Sections 22 and 29 of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substance Act,
1985 at Police Station City Nawashahar, District Saheed Bhagat Singh
Nagar, Punjab.

Learned counsel for the petitioner states that the alleged
recovery effected from the petitioner-Jagtar Singh is 19 injections of
Buprenorphine and he has been in custody since 13.05.2019. There is no
other case against the petitioner under NDPS, Act except one case under
Indian Penal Code. The trial is not likely to conclude on account of the
prevailing Covid-19 pandemic.

Learned State counsel has stated that the recovery effected from the petitioner is of commercial quantity. He has not disputed the fact regarding the custody period of the petitioner and further states that the out of 11 only 2 witnesses have been examined and now the case is fixed for 03.12.2020.

I have heard the learned counsel for the parties.

In view of the submissions made by the learned counsel for the petitioner, especially when the petitioner has been in custody since 13.05.2019; out of 11 witnesses 2 have been examined and that the trial of the case may take time to conclude as the country continues to plunge into the global pandemic, Covid-19, this Court finds that no useful purpose would be served by keeping the petitioner behind bars.

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

(HARNARESH SINGH GILL)
JUDGE

September 30, 2020

Jyoti-TN Whether speaking/reasoned Yes/No Whether Reportable Yes/No