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IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH

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CRM-M-53900-2019
Date of Decision: 28.09.2020

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Amritpal Singh @ Pali

..... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

..... Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUDIP AHLUWALIA

Present: Mr. Karanjeet Singh Brar, Advocate,
for the petitioner.

Mr. Randhir Thind, DAG, Punjab.

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SUDIP AHLUWALIA, J. (ORAL)

The present petition has been filed under Section 439 of the Code of Criminal Procedure by the petitioner, seeking regular bail in case FIR No.0179 dated 23.10.2019, under Sections 21 and 22 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985, registered at Police Station Sadar Bathinda.

2. Seen Custody Certificate of the petitioner, who has remained in detention in the present case for eleven months and three days, till today. There is no record of his involvement in any other case under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985.

3. After completion of the investigation, challan against the petitioner has already been presented long ago, but the trial is yet to commence, and even the charges have not been framed, obviously on account

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of the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic, due to which, normal functioning of the Courts has been severely disturbed.

4. In the given circumstances, and in view of the decisions passed by various Co-ordinate Benches of this Court in similarly situated cases, such as in CRM-M-28410-2020, titled as **"Harinder Singh Vs. State of Punjab"**, CRM-M-17481-2020, titled as **"Mani Singh @ Maddi Vs. State of Punjab"** and CRM-M-13310-2020, titled as **"Harwinder Singh Vs. State of Punjab"**, detention of the petitioner for an indefinite period, at this stage, is not called for.

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

6. Disposed off.

28.09.2020 **(SUDIP AHLUWALIA)**
Apurva **JUDGE**

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

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