

C.R.R. 325 of 2021

In the matter of:- **Sunil Das @ Kalajira**

Mr. Koustav Bagchi
...for the petitioner
Mr. Bidyut Roy
Mr. M.F.A. Begg
...for the State

This is an application seeking an expeditious disposal of a proceeding in which a charge-sheet was submitted under Section 20(b) (ii) of the NDPS Act.

Let a copy of the application be served upon Mr. Bidyut Roy and Mr. M.F.A. Begg, learned advocates, who are present in court today and who ordinarily appear on behalf of the State. Their engagement may be regularised in due course by the competent authority of the State.

Learned counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioner submits as follows. The petitioner is an accused in this case. He is in custody since the date of his arrest on 08.04.2018. Although the charges were framed in 2019, till date, only one witness could be examined out of a total of 9 witnesses. The proceeding has remained pending for no fault of the present petitioner.

I have heard the submissions of the learned counsels appearing on behalf of the petitioner and the State and have perused the revision petition.

No prejudice will be caused to any one, if a direction is passed to expedite the proceeding.

It appears that some delay has been occasioned in the impugned proceeding, especially considering the fact that the petitioner is in custody since April, 2018.

In view of the above and in the interest of justice, I request the learned trial Court to conclude the proceeding as early as possible, preferably within a period of one year from the next date of hearing.

Urgent photostat certified copies of this order may be delivered to the learned Advocates for the parties, if applied for, upon compliance of all formalities.

(Jay Sengupta, J.)