

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

(Sr. No. 227)

CRM-M No. 667 of 2021

Date of decision : 22.03.2021

Lachhman Singh

.....Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

.....Respondent

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE DEEPAK SIBAL

Present : Mr. Digvijay Nagpal, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. H. S. Multani, DAG, Punjab.

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DEEPAK SIBAL, J. (Oral)

The present petition has been filed under Section 439 Cr.P.C. for the grant of regular bail in FIR No. 0164 dated 19.06.2020 under Sections 22, 25, 29 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 registered at Police Station Sardulgarh, district Mansa.

The petitioner has been prosecuted for having been found in possession of 500 tablets of Tramadol Hydrochloride.

Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that the petitioner who is 24 years old young boy has been falsely implicated in the case at the behest of the police; there is no other criminal case in which the petitioner is involved; report under Section 173 Cr.P.C. has already been filed and therefore the petitioner is not in a position to influence the investigation and that the petitioner's trial which is yet to begin will take a long time to conclude.

Learned State counsel opposes the grant of bail to the petitioner on the ground that the petitioner has been found in illegal possession of 500 tablets (weighing 420 grams) containing Tramadol Hydrochloride and if he is released on bail he may indulge in similar offences.

The petitioner is a young boy aged 24 years; there is no other criminal case in which he is involved; report under Section 173 Cr.P.C. has already been filed and therefore the petitioner is not in a position to influence the investigation and that the petitioner's trial which is yet to begin is likely to take a long time to conclude especially in the present circumstances when the world is facing the COVID-19 pandemic.

In view of the above, the present case is considered to be a fit one in which the petitioner be directed to be released on regular bail. Resultantly, subject to the satisfaction of the CJM/Duty Magistrate, Mansa the petitioner is directed to be released on bail.

It is clarified that the above observations have been made only for the limited purpose of deciding the present regular bail application and the same would not be construed to be an expression of opinion on the merits of the case.

22.03.2021*sunil yadav***(DEEPAK SIBAL)
JUDGE**

Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes / No

Whether reportable : Yes / No