

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

218

CRM-M-2848-2021

Date of decision : 27.01.2021

JASPREET SINGH

... Petitioner

Versus

STATE OF PUNJAB

.. Respondent

CORAM :HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ANUPINDER SINGH GREWAL

Present:- Mr. Prateek Pandit, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Dhruv Dayal, Senior DAG, Punjab.

Anupinder Singh Grewal, J. (Oral)

The petitioner is seeking regular bail in FIR No.03 dated 21.01.2016, under Sections 15, 29 of the NDPS Act, registered at Police Station Nurmahal, District Jalandhar (Rural).

Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that the allegations against the petitioner are that 300 kg. poppy husk was allegedly recovered from a truck and 100 kg. poppy husk were recovered from an Innova car which was following the truck. The petitioner is alleged to be driving the truck. He also contends that the petitioner is a driver and the sole bread winner of his family which comprises his wife and two children. He is in custody for over 05 years and co-accused, namely, Manjit Singh has been granted regular bail by the Coordinate Bench of this Court in CRM-M-350 of 2018, on 06.02.2018. He also contends that the petitioner is involved in another case under the NDPS Act in which he is on bail.

Learned State counsel has filed custody certificate in Court through e-mail, which indicates that the petitioner is in custody for 05 years and 03 days as on 26.01.2021. He, upon instructions from ASI Harbhajan Singh, contends that recovery is heavy and the petitioner was arrested at the spot. He also contends that 09 out of 16 prosecution witnesses have been examined.

Heard through video conferencing.

In view of the above especially when the petitioner is in custody for over 05 years, co-accused has been granted bail, the COVID-19 pandemic and the conclusion of the trial is likely to take some time, I deem it a fit case to grant the concession of regular bail to the petitioner.

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

(ANUPINDER SINGH GREWAL)
JUDGE

January 27, 2021
sonia gugnani

Whether speaking/reasoned	:	Yes/No
Whether Reportable	:	Yes/No