

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

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CRM-M-12740-2021

Date of decision : 25.08.2021.

Felix Adewole

... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

.. Respondent

CORAM :HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ANUPINDER SINGH GREWAL

Present:- Ms. Swati Verma, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Dhruv Dayal, Senior DAG, Punjab.

Anupinder Singh Grewal, J. (Oral)

Heard through video conferencing.

The petitioner is seeking regular bail in FIR No.158 dated 12.06.2017 under Sections 21, 61, 85 of the NDPS Act registered at Police Station Dakha, District Ludhiana.

Learned counsel for the petitioner, *inter alia*, contends that the petitioner is in custody for over four years and the trial has come to a standstill due to Covid-19 pandemic.

Learned State counsel, upon instructions from ASI Saranjeet Singh, states that 04 out of 10 prosecution witnesses have been examined. He has filed custody certificate in Court through e-mail, which indicates that the petitioner is in custody for 04 years, 02 months and 08 days as on 24.08.2021 and is involved in several other cases. The petitioner is convicted in FIR No.03 dated 07.01.2010, under Section 21 read with Section 8 of the NDPS Act and sentenced to undergo imprisonment for 15 years. The petitioner is also

convicted in another FIR No.37 dated 13.03.2017, under Section 420 IPC and Sections 42, 52-A P. Act and sentenced to imprisonment already undergone by him.

Heard.

The allegations in the instant case are that 1 kg. heroin was allegedly recovered from the petitioner. He is involved in several other cases and convicted in one case under the NDPS Act. Therefore, the petitioner is not entitled to the concession of regular bail at this stage. However, the trial Court is directed to expedite the trial.

The petition stands disposed of.

(ANUPINDER SINGH GREWAL)
JUDGE

August 25, 2021
sonia gugnani

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