

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

CRM-M-10293 of 2020

DECIDED ON: 20th JULY, 2021

Kesar Singh

.....PETITIONER

VERSUS

State of Punjab

.....RESPONDENT

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AVNEESH JHINGAN.

Present: None for petitioner.

Ms. Monika Jalota, DAG Punjab.

AVNEESH JHINGAN, J (ORAL)

The matter is taken up for hearing through video conference due to COVID-19 situation.

This petition under Section 439 Cr.P.C. is for grant of regular bail in case of FIR No. 16 dated 27.1.2020 under Sections 1, 14, 61, 78 of Punjab Excise Act, 1914, registered at Police Station Bhikhi, District Mansa.

The police acting on a secret information on 27.1.2020 checked a vehicle bearing registration No.HR-65-A-7335 and recovered 720 bottles of country made liquor. The petitioner was driver of the vehicle.

The petitioner is behind bars since January 2020. No recovery is to be effected. Investigation is complete and challan stands presented.

The opposition to grant of regular bail is on the ground that he is involved in two more cases.

Involvement in two more cases in itself would not be a ground to keep the petitioner behind bars. Conclusion of trial is likely to take time as there is not much progress even after presentation of challan on 1.4.2020.

Considering the facts and circumstances in totality, the petitioner is granted bail on furnishing surety bonds to the satisfaction of the Chief Judicial Magistrate/ Duty Magistrate concerned.

The petition is allowed.

It is clarified that the observations made hereinabove shall not be construed as an expression of opinion on the merits of the case.

20th JULY, 2021

reema

**(AVNEESH JHINGAN)
JUDGE**

<i>Whether speaking/reasoned</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Whether reportable</i>	<i>No</i>