

206

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT
CHANDIGARH

CRM-M No.13990 of 2020 (O&M)
Decided on: 27.01.2021

Gori Singh

....Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

....Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR JUSTICE ARVIND SINGH SANGWAN

Present: Mr. G.S. Nahel, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Joginder Pal Ratra, DAG, Punjab.

ARVIND SINGH SANGWAN, J. (Oral)

Prayer in this 2nd petition is for grant of regular bail to the petitioner under Section 439 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (in short 'Cr.P.C.') in FIR No.93 dated 25.07.2019, for offence punishable under Section 22 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 (in short 'the NDPS Act') registered at Police Station Longowal, District Sangrur.

Counsel for the petitioner has submitted that the petitioner is not involved in any other case under the NDPS Act and he is in custody for the last 01 year and 06 months. It is thus, submitted that due to COVID-19 situation and considering the long custody of the petitioner, he may be released on interim bail.

Counsel for the State has filed the Custody Certificate today in the Court and as per the Custody Certificate, the petitioner is in custody for the last 01 year and 06 months. It is submitted that the

CASE HEARD THROUGH VIDEO CONFERENCING

petitioner is involved in one more case under the Excise Act, however, he is on bail in the said case.

After hearing the counsel for the parties, without commenting anything on merits of the case and considering the fact that the petitioner is in custody for the last 01 year and 06 months; he is not involved in any other case under the NDPS Act; the custodial interrogation of the petitioner is not required and the conclusion of the trial will take some time due to COVID-19 situation, this petition is partly allowed and the petitioner is directed to be released on interim bail till 31.05.2021 subject to his furnishing bail/surety bonds to the satisfaction of the trial Court/Illaq Magistrate/Duty Magistrate.

However, the trial Court, after assessing the situation, if the trial has not started in ordinary course and the evidence is recorded, may cancel or may continue the interim bail granted to the petitioner till further orders.

(ARVIND SINGH SANGWAN)
JUDGE

27.01.2021

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Whether speaking/reasoned Yes/No

Whether reportable: Yes/No