

In virtual Court

CRM-M-17527-2020

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IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT
CHANDIGARH

CRM-M-17527-2020 (O&M)
Date of decision: 14.01.2021

Avaneet Kumar Giri @ Dhania

... Petitioner

Vs.

State of Punjab

... Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARVIND SINGH SANGWAN

Present: Mr. J.S. Dadwal, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Joginder Pal Ratra, DAG, Punjab.

ARVIND SINGH SANGWAN, J. (ORAL)

Prayer in this petition is for grant of regular bail in FIR No.0071 dated 30.06.2019 under Section 18 of NDPS Act, registered at Police Station Cantt Jalandhar, District Jalandhar.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that as per allegations in the FIR, registered on a secret information, the petitioner was apprehended and 05 kg of opium was recovered. It is further submitted that the petitioner is in custody for the last 01 year and 06 months and the trial is moving at a very slow place due to COVID-19 situation, as out of total 12 prosecution witnesses, only 02 PWs have been examined so far.

Learned State counsel has filed the custody certificate dated 13.01.2021 in the Court today and has not disputed the factual position.

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After hearing learned counsel for the parties, without commenting anything on merits of the case and considering the fact that though the actual physical work in the District Courts has started, however, it may not be possible to conclude the trial expeditiously due to backlog, this petition is disposed of and the petitioner is directed to be released on interim bail till 31.05.2021 subject to furnishing his bail/surety bonds to the satisfaction of the trial Court/Duty Magistrate/Illaq Magistrate, concerned.

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

14.01.2021
vishnu

Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No

Whether Reportable : Yes/No