

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

CRM-M-30970-2021

Date of Decision: 16.08.2021

IQBAL SINGH

.....Petitioner

V/s.

STATE OF PUNJAB

.....Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE MANJARI NEHRU KAUL.

Present: Mr. R.G. Chandiwalla, Advocate,
for the petitioner.

Mr. Luvinder Sofat, Assistant Advocate General, Punjab.

MANJARI NEHRU KAUL, J. (Oral)

This is the fourth petition filed under Section 439 Cr.P.C. for grant of regular bail to the petitioner in case FIR No.46, dated 19.04.2020 lodged under Section 22 of the NDPS Act, 1985 (Section 29 of the NDPS, Act, 1985 added later on) registered at Police Station Sadar, Malout, District, Sri Muktsar Sahib.

On a pointed query was put to the learned counsel for the petitioner as to what were the changed circumstances pursuant to the dismissal of the previous petition filed under Section 439 of the Cr.P.C, 1973 which would warrant entertaining the instant petition, he has apprised the Court that three prosecution witnesses have been examined. He further submits that the recovery effected from the petitioner is marginally higher than the prescribed under the commercial quantity.

Per contra, learned State counsel while opposing the prayer and submissions made by the learned counsel for the petitioner has on instructions from ASI Harjit Singh apprised the Court that the petitioner

was apprehended on the basis of suspicion when he threw the bag containing the contraband on the road side. On checking the bag, 800 tablets of Marka Clovidol-100 SR Tramadol Hydrochloride Tablets 100 mg were found inside. It has been further submitted that 12 prosecution witnesses remain to be examined.

Heard.

No ground is made out for extended the concession of regular bail to the petitioner and in view thereof, the petition stands dismissed.

However, learned counsel for the petitioner has made a prayer to direct the learned Court below for expeditious conclusion of the trial as the petitioner has been in custody since 19.04.2020.

In the circumstances and keeping in view the long custody of the petitioner, the trial Court is directed to expedite the trial and conclude the same preferably within six months from today.

August 16, 2021

Ess Kay

**[MANJARI NEHRU KAUL]
JUDGE**

<i>Whether speaking / reasoned</i>	:	<i>Yes /No.</i>
<i>Whether Reportable</i>	:	<i>Yes/No</i>