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

**CRM-M-32789-2021 (O&M)
Date of decision-16.08.2021**

Pawan Kumar

...Petitioner

Vs.

State of Punjab

...Respondent

CORAM:- HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MANOJ BAJAJ

Present: Mr. Vijay Lath, Advocate for the petitioner.

MANOJ BAJAJ, J.

Petitioner has filed this petition under Section 482 Cr.P.C. for issuance of directions to the learned trial Court to follow the principle of speedy trial, as the trial of NDPS Act case No.13430 of 2018 dated 15.11.2018 titled as “State of Punjab Vs. Pawan Kumar Yadav” in case FIR No.163 dated 21.06.2018 under Sections 22 and 25 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 (61 of 1985), Police Station Daba, District Ludhiana, Punjab is pending and petitioner is in custody in the said case for the last more than 3 years, 1 month and 19 days.

During the course of hearing, it is not disputed by learned counsel that the petition i.e. CRM-M-37300-2020 for grant of regular bail under Section 439 Cr.P.C. filed by the petitioner before this Court was withdrawn on 02.07.2021 (Annexure P-5). Learned counsel is unable to reveal the stage of the trial as he is not aware that how many prosecution witnesses have been examined so far. Apart from it, the break out of

pandemic COVID-19, adversely effected the Court proceedings and it resulted in delay of pending criminal trials and the petitioner is not the only accused who is facing the delay as during the restricted working before the trial Courts, the pendency has already increased, therefore, this Court does not find it to be a fit case for issuing the directions for expeditious disposal of the trial.

The petition is dismissed.

(MANOJ BAJAJ)
JUDGE

16.08.2021
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Whether speaking/reasoned :	Yes	No
Whether Reportable :	Yes	No