

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

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**CRM-M-37877-2020(O&M)
Decided on : 27.01.2021**

JOBANJIT SINGH @ JOBAN

. . . Petitioner(s)

Versus

STATE OF PUNJAB

. . . Respondent(s)

CORAM: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE MANJARI NEHRU KAUL

(Through Video Conferencing)

PRESENT: Mr. M.S. Bajwa, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. H. S. Sullar, DAG Punjab
assisted by ASI Satnam Singh.

MANJARI NEHRU KAUL, J. (Oral)

The instant petition has been filed under Section 439 Cr.P.C. for grant of regular bail to the petitioner in case FIR No.122, dated 24.12.2017 under Sections 22, 61, 85 of the NDPS Act, 1985 registered at Police Station Khalra, District Tarn Taran.

Learned counsel contends that the petitioner has been in custody since 27.02.2020 and there is no likelihood of the trial concluding any time in the near future. It has been further submitted that a false recovery of 100 intoxicant tablets and 50 capsules was shown to have been effected from him without complying with the mandatory provisions of the NDPS Act.

Per contra, learned State counsel while opposing the prayer and submissions made by the learned counsel for the petitioner on instructions from ASI Satnam Singh has apprised this Court that the petitioner was declared a proclaimed offender during the pendency of the trial as he absented and it was only 24.02.2020, he was arrested by the police as a result of which the conclusion of the trial has been delayed. He has further submitted that the trial

is nearing completion and the evidence is likely to be concluded by 8th February, 2021.

Heard.

In view of the submissions made by the counsel for the parties, this Court is not inclined to extend the concession of regular bail to the petitioner, keeping in view his conduct and the factum of he having been declared a proclaimed offender during the pendency of the trial.

Dismissed.

It is made clear that anything observed hereinabove shall not be construed as an expression of opinion on the merits of the case. However, the trial Court is directed to endeavour to expedite the trial and conclude it on or before 31.05.2021.

(MANJARI NEHRU KAUL)
JUDGE

January 27, 2021

S.Sharma(syr)

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