

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

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CRM-M-37655-2020 (O&M)

Date of decision: 20.08.2021

NARAINDEEP SINGH @ DEEP

....Petitioner

Versus

STATE OF PUNJAB

....Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HARNARESH SINGH GILL

Present:- Mr. P.P.S. Tung, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Hittan Nehra, Addl. A.G. Punjab.

HARNARESH SINGH GILL, J. (ORAL)

Case is taken up for hearing through video conferencing.

Prayer in this petition is for grant of regular bail to the petitioner in case bearing FIR No.87 dated 25.07.2020, under Sections 15 & 22 of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985, registered at Police Station Phul, District Bathinda, Punjab.

Short affidavit dated 10.08.2021 of the Superintendent, Central Jail Ferozepur, filed on behalf of respondent-State in the Registry, is taken on record.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the alleged recovery effected from the petitioner though falls under the commercial quantity, yet the fact remains that the petitioner has been in custody for the last 11 months and 12 days and there is no other case registered or pending against

the petitioner. He further submits that for his ailing health, the petitioner is regularly being taken to the Civil Hospital for treatment by the jail authorities.

On the other hand, while opposing the prayer for grant of regular bail to the petitioner, learned State counsel does not dispute the custody period. He, however, opposes the grant of bail on the ground that the recovered contraband from the petitioner falls under the commercial quantity.

I have heard the learned counsel for the parties.

The petitioner has been in custody for the last 11 months and 12 days. Further, keeping in view the prevailing situation of Covid-19 pandemic, the trial of the case is unlikely to conclude any time soon. Therefore, no useful purpose would be served by keeping the petitioner behind the bars.

In view of the above, without commenting anything on the merits, lest it should prejudice the case of either side, the present petition is allowed and the petitioner is ordered to be released on bail on his furnishing bail and surety bonds to the satisfaction of the learned trial Court/Duty Magistrate.

CRM-16849-2021

Since, the petitioner is released on regular bail today in the main petition i.e. CRM-M-37655-2020, the present application has become infructuous.

Disposed of as having been rendered infructuous.

(HARNARESH SINGH GILL)
JUDGE

20.08.2021

Aman Jain

Whether speaking/reasoned

: Yes/No

Whether reportable

: Yes/No