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

\*\*\*\*

**CRM-M-37905-2020  
Date of Decision: 06.01.2021**

\*\*\*\*

Hardeep Singh @ Kachu @ Goldi

..... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

..... Respondent

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUDIP AHLUWALIA**

Present: Mr. S.S. Sarwara, Advocate,  
for the petitioner.

Mr. B.S. Sewak, Additional Advocate General, Punjab.

**SUDIP AHLUWALIA, J. (ORAL)**

This is a petition for regular bail filed under Section 439 Cr.P.C. on behalf of the petitioner in case FIR No.213 dated 09.07.2020, under Sections 61 and 78 of the Punjab Excise Act, 1961, Sections 177, 181 and 207 of the Motor Vehicle Act, 1988, and Sections 328 and 420 of the I.P.C., registered at Police Station Phillaur, District Jalandhar.

[2]. The petitioner by now has remained in detention for nearly five months, since 12.07.2020.

[3]. Ld. Counsel for the petitioner has drawn attention of the Court to the fact that no actual contraband was recovered from the petitioner and his name has only transpired from the disclosure statements of the accused persons from whom the recovery has been effected.

[4]. After completion of the investigation, Challan against the petitioner has already been submitted, but trial could not commence due to the outbreak of Covid-19 Pandemic. Moreso, the charges are yet to be

framed.

[5]. In these circumstances, without commenting any further on the merits of the present case as a whole, but in view of the detention undergone by the petitioner and the fact that the trial is likely to take its own considerable time due to ongoing Covid-19 Pandemic, as such, the prayer of the petitioner for regular bail is allowed and he is ordered to be released on bail subject to appropriate terms and conditions to the satisfaction of the Ld. Trial Court/Duty Magistrate, concerned.

[6]. Disposed off.

**06.01.2021**

*Bhumika*

**(SUDIP AHLUWALIA)  
JUDGE**

1. Whether speaking/reasoned: Yes/No

2. Whether reportable: Yes/No