

In the matter of:- Jeet Chatterjee

...petitioner

Mr. Satadru Lahiri,
Mr. Shirsho Dasgupta.
...for the petitioner.

Mr. Imran Ali,
Ms. Manisha Sharma.
....for the State.

This is an application seeking an expeditious disposal of a proceeding in which a charge sheet was submitted under Section 21(c) of the NDPS Act.

Let a copy of this application be served upon Mr. Imran Ali and Ms. Manisha Sharma, learned Counsels who ordinarily appear on behalf of the State. Let them represent the State. Their engagement may be regularised by the competent authority of the State in due course.

Learned Counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioner submits as follows. The petitioner is an accused in this case. He is in custody since 05.07.2018, the date on which the FIR was registered. A charge sheet was submitted in 2018. A supplementary charge sheet was submitted in 2019. In all, prosecution intends to examine seven witnesses in this case as mentioned in the charge sheet and the supplementary charge sheet. On 18.12.2020, a charge was framed. Yet, till date only two witnesses could be examined in this case. The matter has remained pending for no fault on the part of the present petitioner.

Learned Counsel appearing on behalf of the State submits that the State would not come in the way if a direction is passed to

expedite the proceeding.

I have heard the submissions of the learned counsels appearing on behalf of the petitioner and the State and have perused the revision petition.

It appears that an inordinate delay has been occasioned in concluding the trial, especially considering the fact that the petitioner is languishing in custody since 05.07.2018.

In view of the above and in the interest of justice, the learned Court is requested to conclude the trial as expeditiously as possible without granting any unnecessary adjournment to any of the parties, preferably within a period of ten months from the next date of hearing.

With the above observations, the revisional application is disposed of.

Urgent photostat certified copy of this order may be supplied to the parties expeditiously, if applied for.

(Jay Sengupta, J.)