

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

204

CRM-M-8643-2022

Date of Decision: 04.03.2022

Manpreet Singh @ Bhola

....Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

....Respondent

CORAM:HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HARINDER SINGH SIDHU

Present: Mr. Ashok Kumar Khunger, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. R.S. Khaira, AAG, Punjab.

HARINDER SINGH SIDHU, J.

Present petition has been filed under Section 439 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (Cr.P.C.) for grant of concession of regular bail to the petitioner in case FIR No.0038 dated 04.08.2018, under Sections 61/1/14 of the Punjab Excise Act, 1914, registered at Police Station GRP, Abohar, District Fazilka.

The petitioner was initially granted anticipatory bail. The challan in the case was presented on 30.07.2019. However, the petitioner did not appear. Bailable warrants were issued against him 02.11.2020. Then on 25.11.2020 non bailable warrants of arrest were issued. Thereafter the petitioner put in appearance and was released on bail on his furnishing personal bonds. The petitioner again absented on 14.09.2021. Proclamation proceedings were initiated and he was declared a proclaimed person on 22.12.2021. He has been arrested on 24.12.2021.

Learned counsel for the petitioner states that the non-

appearance of the petitioner was wholly unintentional. Infact he could not appear on 14.09.2021 on account of COVID-19.

The petitioner is now in custody for the last two months. Accordingly, without expressing any opinion on the merits of the case, this criminal miscellaneous petition is allowed and the petitioner-Manpreet Singh @ Bhola is ordered to be released on bail subject to his furnishing bail bonds and surety bonds to the satisfaction of the trial Court/Duty Magistrate, Chief Judicial Magistrate, concerned.

[HARINDER SINGH SIDHU]
JUDGE

March 04, 2022
rashmi

Whether speaking/reasoned	yes/no
Whether reportable?	yes/no