

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

206

CRM-M-12903-2022

Date of Decision :12.12.2022

Vinod Kumar

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

....Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HARSIMRAN SINGH SETHI

Present: Mr. Gurpal Singh Sandhu, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Athar Ahmed, DAG, Punjab
assisted by ASI Jasvir Singh.

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Harsimran Singh Sethi, J. (Oral)

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that that petitioner is behind the bars for the last more than 03 years but the trial is being conducted in a manner that it is not likely to be concluded soon therefore, the present petition has been filed seeking grant of regular bail to the petitioner.

Learned counsel for the petitioner further submits he is not pressing the present petition for the grant of regular bail but prays that a direction be issued to the trial Court to conclude the trial as expeditiously as possible by prescribing time frame for the same.

Learned State counsel submits that he does not have any objection in case a direction is issued to the trial Court to conclude the trial in a time bound manner.

There are 09 cited witnesses to be examined out of which, 02 witnesses have already been examined. As per the status report, police officials were not coming forward for their testimony and their presence was secured only after issuance of non-bailable warrants. This act on the part of the police officials is deplorable.

Keeping in view the facts and circumstances of the present case, trial Court is directed to conclude the trial within a period of 04 months from the next date of hearing even if, short adjournments are to be given. In case any police official does not appear for his/her testimony on the prescribed date, trial Court is directed to forward the name of the said official to the Director General Police of Punjab along with the copy of this order for taking appropriate disciplinary proceedings against the said police official in case there does not exist any valid reason for the said police official not to appear on the said date to tender testimony. Director General of Police, Punjab is also requested to take appropriate decision in case any case is referred by the trial Court pointing out conduct of any police official during the trial so as to ensure that the trial is not delayed due to any action or inaction on the part of the police officials.

Present petition stands disposed of in above terms.

December 12, 2022
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(HARSIMRAN SINGH SETHI)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No
Whether reportable : Yes/No