IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH

CRM-M-14242-2022 (O&M)

DATE OF DECISION: SEPTEMBER 21, 2022

PANKAJ KUMAR @ LAMB ...PETITIONER

VERSUS

STATE OF PUNJAB ...RESPONDENT

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MANOJ BAJAJ.

PRESENT: MR. C.S. RANA, ADVOCATE FOR THE PETITIONER.
MR. KUNAL MUTHREJA, AAG, PUNJAB.

MANOJ BAJAJ, J.(ORAL)

CRM-34105-2022

This application is for preponing the date of hearing of the main petition to an early date, which is fixed for 26.9.2022.

Notice in the application.

At this stage, Mr. Kunal Muthreja, AAG, Punjab accepts notice on behalf of the respondent-State and does not oppose the prayer.

Application is allowed and date of hearing is preponed to today.

Main Case

Petitioner has filed this petition under Section 439 Cr.P.C. for grant of regular bail pending trial in case FIR No.14 dated 13.1.2018, under Section 22 NDPS Act, Police Station Garhshankar, District Hoshiarpur, who is in custody since his arrest on 13.1.2018.

As per the allegations levelled in the FIR, when ASI Avtar Singh alongwith other police officials was patrolling from Garhshankar to police nehar Rawalpindi and at around 1.00 p.m. reached near Pateri Nehar,

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a clean shave young boy was seen coming from the opposite direction holding a black colour carry bag on his left shoulder. On seeing the police party, he got perplexed and turned towards left side of the road. On suspicion, he was apprehended who disclosed his name as Pankaj Kumar @ Lamb. On search, 20 injections of Buperonorphine(Omgesic) 2 ml. each and 20 injections of Pheniramine Maleate(Avil) 10 ml. each was recovered from the said carry bag. On these broad allegations, the present FIR was registered.

Learned State counsel on instructions from SI Kuldeep Singh has apprised the Court that out of total 10 prosecution witnesses, 9 witnesses have been examined. According to him, the trial is at the final stage and the case is fixed today before the trial Court.

At this stage, learned counsel for the petitioner states that the petitioner is behind bars since 13.1.2018 and the examination of the said remaining witness is pending for a long time, therefore, he prays that the trial Court be directed to expedite the matter.

After hearing the learned counsel for the parties and considering the advanced stage of the trial, no case is made out for release of petitioner on regular bail. However, the trial Court is directed to conclude the trial expeditiously, preferably within next three months.

Disposed of.

September 21, 2022 **(MANOJ BAJAJ)**
Gulati **JUDGE**

Whether Reportable : Yes/No

Whether Speaking/Reasoned : Yes/No

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