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

**CRM-M-17327-2022 (O&M)
Date of Decision: 31.10.2022**

Basant Singh

..... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

..... Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JASGURPREET SINGH PURI

Present: Mr. Vipul Jindal, Advocate,
for the petitioner.

Mr. Kunal Vinayak, AAG, Punjab.

JASGURPREET SINGH PURI, J. (ORAL)

The present petition has been filed under Section 439 of the Code of Criminal Procedure for grant of regular bail to the petitioner in case bearing FIR No.21 dated 12.12.2018, under Section 21, 25 & 29 NDPS Act and Section 25 of the Arms Act and Section 307 IPC, registered at Police Station SSOC, District Amritsar.

After arguing for some time, learned counsel for the petitioner has submitted that he does not wish to press the present petition for grant of bail but his alternate prayer be considered in view of the long custody of the petitioner. He further submitted that the petitioner has faced incarceration for 3 years & 10 months and only 2 out of 23 cited witnesses have been examined till date although charges have been framed on 15.07.2019. He also submitted that the trial Court may be directed to expedite the trial in

view of the peculiar facts and circumstances. He further submitted that the petitioner is not involved in any other case and is also not a habitual offender and apart from the same, the other co-accused has already been granted regular bail by this Court vide Annexure P-4.

On the other hand, Mr. Kunal Vinayak, learned AAG, Punjab has submitted that it is correct that the petitioner is in custody from 3 years & 10 months and he is not involved in any other case and the petitioner is not at parity with the other co-accused, who has been granted bail.

After hearing the learned counsel for the parties and considering the alternate prayer made by the learned counsel for the petitioner by considering the long custody of the petitioner and the fact that only two witnesses have been examined till date even the charges were framed on 15.07.2019, the trial Court is directed to expedite the trial.

Disposed of.

31.10.2022*Bhumika***(JASGURPREET SINGH PURI)
JUDGE**

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| 1. Whether speaking/reasoned: | Yes/No |
| 2. Whether reportable: | Yes/No |