

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

Sr.No.230

CRM-M-26767-2021

Date of decision: 21.01.2022

Mandeep Singh

..Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE MANJARI NEHRU KAUL

Present: Mr.Prateek Pandit, Advocate for the petitioner

Mr.Luvinder Sofat, AAG, Punjab
assisted by ASI Rajender Singh

(Through Video Conferencing)

MANJARI NEHRU KAUL, J. (Oral)

By way of filing the preset petition, the petitioner is seeking regular bail in case FIR No.237 dated 15.10.2018, registered under Section 22 & 29 of the NDPS Act at Police Station Kotwali, District Kaputhala.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the petitioner has been in custody since 19.3.2020 and there is no likelihood of trial concluding in the near future as only one out of total 11 prosecution witnesses cited has been examined so far.

Contra learned State counsel has opposed the prayer made by the counsel opposite by urging that the petitioner was declared a proclaimed offender on 16.3.2020 as he had absconded during the trial. He further submits that in the wake of his antecedents, the petitioner be not extended the concession of bail as there is every likelihood that he could once again abscond in case he is released on bail.

In view of the above, this Court does not deem it appropriate to extend the concession of bail to the petitioner in the wake of his antecedents.

Dismissed. However, anything contained hereinabove shall not be construed to be an expression of opinion on the merits of the case.

At this stage, a request has been made by the learned counsel for the petitioner that the trial Court be directed to expedite the trial, as the petitioner has been in custody for the last more than two years.

In view of the above, the trial Court shall make earnest efforts to conclude the trial Court expeditiously preferably within six months.

(**MANJARI NEHRU KAUL**)
JUDGE

21.1.2022
gsv

Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No

Whether reportable : Yes/No