

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

CRM-M-41689-2021 (O&M)

Date of decision: 18.01.2022

Manpreet Singh @ Maana

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARVIND SINGH SANGWAN

Present:- Ms. Amarinder Kaur, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Joginder Pal Ratra, DAG, Punjab.

(Through video conferencing)

ARVIND SINGH SANGWAN, J. (Oral)

This petition has been filed under Section 439 of the Code of Criminal Procedure for grant of regular bail to the petitioner in case FIR No. 292 dated 25.05.2020, registered under Sections 22 and 29 of the Narcotic Drugs & Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 at Police Station City Barnala, District Barnala.

Learned counsel for the petitioner relies upon order dated 02.02.2021 passed in CRM-M-41760-2020, vide which co-accused Ranjit Singh @ Kallu has already been granted the concession of regular bail by this Court. The operative part of the order reads as under:

“Custody certificate, received through email, is taken on record. As per custody certificate, the petitioner is in judicial custody for the last about eight months.

As per allegations in the FIR, the police, on receiving a secret information that Lachhmi @ Kali and Jagjit Singh are jointly doing the business of selling

intoxicant tablets, conducted a raid and apprehended the said accused with 910 intoxicant tablets.

A perusal of the order dated 11.11.2020, passed by the Judge, Special Court, Barnala, shows that petitioner Ranjit Singh @ Kallu and Manpreet Singh were nominated on the disclosure of the aforesaid two co-accused.

A perusal of the record shows that aforesaid main accused Jagjit Singh and Lachhmi @ Kali have already been granted concession of regular bail by this Court, vide orders dated 11.09.2020 and 21.12.2020 passed in CRM-M Nos. 26318 & 21636 of 2020, respectively.”

Learned counsel for the petitioner further submits that aforesaid co-accused Ranjit Singh @ Kallu was also nominated along with the petitioner on the disclosure of two co-accused, namely Lachmi @ Kali and Jagjit Singh, who were arrested at the spot along with the intoxicant material and they have also been granted th concession of regular bail by this Court, vide orders dated 21.12.2020 and 11.09.2020 passed in CRM-M-21636 & 26318-2020, respectively.

Learned State counsel has filed the custody certificate and has not disputed the factual position, however, it is submitted that petitioner is involved in one more FIR under the NDPS Act.

In reply, learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the said FIR was registered five days prior to registration of the present FIR and co-accused Ranjit Singh @ Kallu was a co-accused even in the said FIR and in the present FIR also, the petitioner is nominated on the disclosure of co-accused.

I have heard learned counsel for the parties.

Without making any comment on the merits of the case,

considering the fact that petitioner is in long judicial custody and was nominated on the disclosure of aforesaid two main accused, who have already been granted concession of regular bail by this Court as noticed above, the instant petition is allowed. The petitioner is ordered to be released on regular bail on his furnishing bail/surety bonds to the satisfaction of the trial Court/Duty Magistrate/Illaqua Magistrate, concerned.

18.01.2022

Waseem Ansari

(ARVIND SINGH SANGWAN)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned

Yes/No

Whether reportable

Yes/No