

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

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**CRM-M-1811-2023 (O&M)
Date of decision: 07.02.2023**

Buta Singh

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HARNARESH SINGH GILL

Present:- Mr. Ashok Saini, Advocate for the petitioner.

Ms. Ishma Randhawa, Addl. AG Punjab.

HARNARESH SINGH GILL, J. (ORAL)

Through this second petition, the petitioner seeks regular bail in case bearing FIR No.40 dated 25.05.2019, registered at Police Station STF, Phase-4, Mohali, District SAS Nagar, under Sections 21 and 29 NDPS Act, 1985.

Affidavit dated 27.01.2023 of the Deputy Superintendent of Police, Special Task Force, Ludhiana Range, already filed in the Registry is taken on record.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that earlier, in CRM-M-1901-2020 preferred by the petitioner, vide order dated 18.05.2022 passed by this Court, the trial Court was directed to make an endeavour to conclude the trial at the earliest, but only some of the prosecution witnesses have been examined so far.

After arguing for some time, learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the petitioner will be satisfied, if the trial Court is again directed to conclude the trial within a stipulated period, as the petitioner has been in custody since 25.05.2019.

Learned State counsel points out that out of 21 prosecution witnesses, 08 witnesses have already been examined and the next date before the learned trial Court is 14.02.2023.

I have heard the learned counsel for the parties and have also gone through the documents on record.

The FIR was registered way back on 25.05.2019 and since then the petitioner has been in custody.

Keeping in view the custody period of the petitioner, the present petition is disposed. The order dated 18.05.2022 is reiterated and the learned trial Court is again directed to make an endeavour to conclude the trial preferable within a period of 06 months, in accordance with law.

(HARNARESH SINGH GILL)
JUDGE

07.02.2023

Mangal Singh

Whether reasoned/speaking?
Whether reportable?

Yes/No
Yes/No