

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

225

CRM-M-11673-2023
Date of decision: 15.03.2023

AMARJIT SINGH

....Petitioner(s)

Versus

STATE OF PUNJAB

...Respondent(s)

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AMAN CHAUDHARY

Present : Mr. Arshdeep Singh Brar, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Manipal Singh Atwal, DAG, Punjab.

AMAN CHAUDHARY. J.

The present petition has been filed under Section 439 Cr.P.C. for the grant of regular bail to the petitioner in respect of FIR No. 238 dated 03.11.2022 under Section 21 of the NDPS Act, 1985 (Section 29 of the NDPS Act added later on) registered at Police Station City Moga, District Moga.

Learned counsel contends that the petitioner has been in custody for the last 4 months and 09 days having been arrested on 05.11.2022. The recovery of contraband effected from the petitioner is non commercial in nature. The petitioner was a passenger in the vehicle from where the alleged contraband was recovered. Though, challan has been presented on 30.12.2022, charges are yet to be framed and in all, there are 6 prosecution witnesses. He is not involved in any other case under the NDPS Act. Co-accused namely Baljinder Singh @ Jindri has been granted regular bail by this Court vide order dated 14.03.2023.

Learned State counsel has filed custody certificate which is taken on

record, confirming the custody to be of 4 months and 09 days. He opposes the bail on the ground that the petitioner was the passenger in the vehicle from where the recovery of the contraband, which is non commercial in nature, has been effected. However, he is unable to controvert the other submissions with regard to custody, stage of the case; co-accused having been granted bail and that he is not involved in any other case under the NDPS Act.

Heard.

In view of the abovesaid facts and circumstances of the case, in particular that the petitioner has been in custody for the last 4 months and 09 days; recovery effected is from the petitioner is non-commercial, therefore, rigors of Section 37 of NDPS Act are not attracted in the present case; he is not involved in any other case under the NDPS Act; co-accused having been granted regular bail by this Court; though challan has been presented, charges are yet to be framed and in all, there are 06 prosecution witnesses; the trial is likely to take sufficiently long time; his further detention behind bars would not serve any useful purpose, thus the present petition for grant of regular bail deserves to be allowed.

As a result, the present petition is allowed. The petitioner is ordered to be released on regular bail, subject to his furnishing bail/surety bonds to the satisfaction of trial Court/Duty Magistrate concerned and subject to him not being required in any other case. The petitioner shall abide by the following conditions:-

1. The petitioner will not tamper with the evidence during the trial.
2. The petitioner will not pressurize/ intimidate the prosecution witnesses.
3. The petitioner will appear before the trial Court on each and every date fixed, unless is exempted by a specific order of Court.
4. The petitioner shall not commit an offence similar to the offence of

which, he is an accused, or for commission of which he is suspected of.

5. The petitioner shall not directly or indirectly coerce, induce, threaten or promise to any person acquainted with the facts of the case so as to dissuade him/ her from disclosing such facts to the Court or to any police officer or tamper with the evidence in any manner.

6. The petitioner shall not in any manner misuse his liberty.

7. The petitioner shall furnish his address and mobile number to the Trial Court forthwith and shall not change the same till the conclusion of the trial and in case for any reason, the petitioner seeks to change any of the aforesaid, the same shall be done only with prior intimation to the learned Trial Court, stating the reason for the same.

8. The petitioner shall deposit his passport, if any, with the Trial Court forthwith and in case, he does not have the passport, he shall furnish a specific affidavit in this regard.

It is made clear that in case of any infraction of any of the aforesaid conditions, the State shall be at liberty to seek cancellation of bail as granted to the petitioner by this order.

In view of the above, this Court makes it clarified that the observations made herein above are limited for the purpose of present proceedings and would not be construed as any opinion on the merits of the case and the trial would proceed independently of the aforesaid observations.

(AMAN CHAUDHARY)
JUDGE

15.03.2023
Mehak

Whether speaking/reasoned	:	Yes/No
Whether reportable	:	Yes/No