

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

**CRM-M-27641-2021
Decided on:-02.03.2023**

Jaspreet Singh @ Raju

....Petitioner..

vs.

State of Punjab

....Respondent.

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HARKESH MANUJA

Present: Mr. Jasdeep Singh, Advocate,
for the petitioner.

Mr. Amit Shukla, AAG, Punjab.

HARKESH MANUJA J.

By way of present petition filed under Section 439 Cr.P.C., the petitioner prays for grant of regular bail during pendency of trial in case FIR No.009 dated 06.03.2021, under Section 22 (Act No.61) of NDPS Act, 1985, registered at Police Station GRP Bathinda.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that petitioner is behind the bars for the last about two years now and the investigation in the present case already stands concluded with the filing of challan, followed by framing of charges and trial is likely to take some time as only 05 witnesses have been examined out of total of 12 witnesses cited by the prosecution, as such, no useful purpose is going to be served by keeping the petitioner behind the bars.

On the other hand, learned State counsel opposes the prayer made in the present petition and prays for dismissal of present petition.

I have heard learned counsel for the parties and gone through the paper book. I find merits in the submissions made on behalf of the petitioner.

Considering the facts that the petitioner is already behind the bars for the last about two years now and the investigation in the present case already stands concluded with the filing of challan followed by framing of charges and trial is likely to take some time as only 05 witnesses have been examined out of total of 12 witnesses cited by the prosecution, no useful purpose is going to be served by extending the incarceration of the petitioner. Reliance can be placed upon the law laid down by Hon'ble the Supreme Court in "Special Leave to Appeal (Crl.) No.5530/2022, titled as ***"Mohammad Salman Hanif Shaikh vs. The State of Gujrat"***, Special Leave to Appeal (Crl.) No.4173/2022, titled as ***"Shariful Islam @ Sarif vs. The State of West Bengal"*** and Special Leave to Appeal (Crl.) No.5769/2022, titled as ***"Nitish Adhikary @ Bapan vs. The State of West Bengal"***.

In view of the above, without expressing any opinion on the merits of the case, the present petition is allowed. Petitioner is ordered to be released on bail, subject to his furnishing bail bonds and surety bonds to the satisfaction of the concerned trial Court/Duty Magistrate.

02.03.2023
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(HARKESH MANUJA)
JUDGE

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