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

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CRM-M-41043-2023

Date of decision : 14.11.2023

Bittu**..... Petitioner****versus****State of Punjab****..... Respondent****CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PANKAJ JAIN**

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

Mr. Tarun Aggarwal, Sr. DAG, Punjab.

PANKAJ JAIN, J. (Oral)

1. While issuing notice of motion on 21.08.2023, following order was passed:-

“Apprehending his arrest in FIR No.148, dated 07.12.2022, registered for offences punishable under Sections 21(a), 61/85 of the NDPS Act, (Section 29 of NDPS Act, added later on vide DDR No.35, dated 07.02.2023) at Police Station Jaitu, District Faridkot, the petitioner has preferred this petition under Section 438 Cr.P.C. seeking pre-arrest bail.

Ld. Counsel for the petitioner inter alia submits that the petitioner has been nominated on the basis of statement made by one Asha. From whom 2 grams of heroin was recovered. Further relies upon order dated 24th of April, 2023 passed in CRM-M No.1801 of 2023 whereby co-accused namely Komal Devi has been granted pre-arrest bail. Counsel further submits that petitioner has

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been nominated in another case also wherein he has been granted interim protection vide order dated 29th of May, 2023 in CRM-M-27242-2023.

Issue notice of motion, returnable for 14.11.2023.

Mr. Amit Shukla, AAG, Punjab appears and accepts notice on behalf of the respondent/State.

In the meantime, in the event of arrest, the petitioner shall be released on interim bail subject to his furnishing personal and surety bonds to the satisfaction of the Arresting Officer/Investigating Officer. As and when called, the petitioner shall join the investigation. He shall abide by the conditions enumerated under Section 438(2) of the Cr.P.C.”

2. Today, learned State counsel, on instructions from ASI Gurdeep Singh, has stated that pursuant to the order dated 21.08.2023, the petitioner has joined investigation and is no longer required for custodial interrogation.

3. In view of above, the interim order dated 21.08.2023 passed by this Court is made absolute, subject to the conditions as enumerated under Section 438(2) Cr.P.C.

4. This order should not be treated as "blanket" order. It will not be read granting petitioner indefinite protection from arrest. It shall be confined to the FIR mentioned *ibid* and will not operate in respect of any other incident that involves commission of an offence.

5. This order does not in any manner limit or restrict the rights or duties of the police or investigating agency, to investigate into the charges against the petitioner.

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6. The petitioner shall be deemed to be in custody for the purpose of Section 27 of the Evidence Act, 1872 in regard to a discovery of facts made in pursuance of information supplied by the petitioner in case the occasion arises.
7. It will be open to the police or the investigating agency to move this court for a direction under Section 439 (2) Cr.P.C. to arrest the accused, in the event of violation of any term, such as absconding, non-cooperating during investigation, evasion, intimidation or inducement to witnesses with a view to influence outcome of the investigation or trial.
8. Needless to say that anything observed herein shall not be construed to be an opinion on the merits of the case.
9. Disposed off accordingly.

(PANKAJ JAIN)
JUDGE

14.11.2023
Dinesh

Whether speaking/reasoned :	Yes
Whether Reportable :	No