

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

229

CRM-M-41889-2023 (O&M)
Date of decision: 31.08.2023

Govind Giri

....Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AMAN CHAUDHARY

Present : Mr. Vikramjeet Singh, Advocate for the petitioner

Mr. Manipal Singh Atwal, DAG Punjab

AMAN CHAUDHARY, J.

1. Prayer in the present petition filed under Section 439 Cr.P.C. for the grant of regular bail to the petitioner in case FIR No.165 dated 24.10.2022, registered under Sections 21(c) and 29 of NDPS Act, 1985 at Police Station Sangat, District Bathinda.

2. Learned counsel contends that the petitioner is in custody for about 10 months. His name surfaced based on the disclosure statement of co-accused Sahil, from whom allegedly 3 kg of Heroin was recovered and is in custody. There is no evidence that has emerged to connect him to the said case, but for the disclosure statement, which is inadmissible in the eyes of law as per the judgment passed by Hon'ble The Supreme Court in the case of **Tofan Singh vs. State of Tamil Nadu**, 2021 (1) RCR (Crl.) 1. He alleges false implication. No recovery has been effected from him. Co-accused Amarjeet Singh, who is similarly situated to the petitioner, has been granted regular bail by this Court vide order dated

27.07.2023, Annexure P-3. Challan was presented on 03.04.2023, however, charges have not been framed. In all there are 25 prosecution witnesses. The petitioner is not involved in any other case. He relies on the order passed by Co-ordinate Bench of this Court in **Sandeep Kumar @ Gogi vs. State of Haryana** in CRM-M-24505-2022 decided on 07.12.2022, wherein also the petitioner was implicated on the basis of disclosure statement, no recovery had been effected from him, and was granted regular bail after a custody being of almost 9 months.

3. The custody certificate dated 28.08.2023 has been filed by learned State counsel. As per the same, the petitioner is behind bars for the last 9 months and 29 days.

4. Learned State counsel opposes the bail on the ground that the petitioner was specifically named by co-accused Sahil, from whom the commercial quantity of contraband has been recovered. He is however unable to controvert the submissions with regard to stage of the case, co-accused has been granted bail and the petitioner is not involved in any other case.

5. Heard.

6. Considering the facts and circumstances of the case, in particular that the petitioner is in custody for the last 9 months and 29 days; not involved in any other case; no recovery effected from him; co-accused having been granted bail; challan stands presented on 03.04.2023, however, charges are yet to be framed; in all there are 25 prosecution witnesses, the trial is likely to take a considerable time, thus his further incarceration would not serve any useful purpose, the present petition for grant of regular bail deserves to be allowed.

7. 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 his not being required in any other case. The petitioner shall abide by the following conditions:-

- (i) The petitioner will not tamper with the evidence during the trial.
- (ii) The petitioner will not pressurize/ intimidate the prosecution witnesses.
- (iii) The petitioner will appear before the trial Court on each and every date fixed, unless is exempted by a specific order of Court.
- (iv) 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.
- (v) 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.
- (vi) The petitioner shall not in any manner misuse his liberty.
- (vii) 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.
- (viii) The petitioner shall not leave the country without prior permission of the trial Court.
- (ix) The trial Court/Duty Magistrate may impose any other condition, as deemed appropriate while releasing the petitioner.

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

9. In view of the above, it is clarified that the observations made herein

are limited for the purpose of present proceedings and would not be construed as an opinion on the merits of the case and the trial would proceed independently of the aforesaid observations.

(AMAN CHAUDHARY)
JUDGE

August 31, 2023
M.Kamra

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