

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

(202)

CRM No. M-45148 of 2023

Date of Decision : 22.09.2023

Jagmeet Singh @ Jagga

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HARSIMRAN SINGH SETHI

Present: Mr. Jashandeep Singh Sandhu, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Gurpreet Singh, Additional Advocate General, Punjab.

Harsimran Singh Sethi J. (Oral)

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. 57, dated 22.04.2021, registered under Section 22(c) of the NDPS Act, 1985 at Police Station Sadar Bathinda, District Bathinda.

Learned counsel for the petitioner argues that the petitioner has falsely been implicated in the present case and is suffering incarceration for more than two years now and as the trial is likely to take some time before it concludes, the petitioner be granted the concession of regular bail.

Notice of motion.

Mr. Gurpreet Singh, learned Additional Advocate General, Punjab, keeping in view the service of advance copy of petition, accepts notice on behalf of the respondent-State. Learned State counsel submits that in the present case, 25,000/- intoxicating tablets were recovered from two persons and keeping in view the seriousness of allegation as the contraband, which is of commercial quantity has been recovered, the prayer of the

petitioner for the grant of regular bail may kindly be declined. Learned counsel for the respondent further submits that out of total 18 cited witnesses, two witnesses have already been given up and 10 witnesses have been examined and six witnesses are yet to be examined, who have been summoned for 27.10.2023.

I have heard learned counsel for the parties and have gone through the record with their able assistance.

Keeping in view the fact that a large quantity of contraband was recovered from the petitioner coupled with the fact that only six witnesses remained to be examined, who have already been summoned for 27.10.2023, no ground is made out for the grant of regular bail to the petitioner keeping in view the embargo of Section 37 of the NDPS Act as commercial quantity of banned substance has been recovered from the petitioner.

Though, the regular bail of the petitioner is being declined but trial Court is directed to conclude the trial within a period of three months from the next date of hearing even if the said purpose is to be achieved by giving short adjournments, if testimony of all the summoned witnesses is not recorded on 27.10.2023.

Disposed of.

September 22, 2023
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(HARSIMRAN SINGH SETHI)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No

Whether reportable : Yes/No