

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

(202)

CRM-M-46544-2023

Date of Decision : September 21, 2023

Gurlal Singh @ Lala**.. Petitioner****Versus****State of Punjab****.. Respondent****CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HARSIMRAN SINGH SETHI**

Present: Mr. O.P. Kamboj, Advocate, for the petitioner.

Mr. Gurpreet Singh, Addl. Advocate General, Punjab.

HARSIMRAN SINGH SETHI J. (ORAL)

1. 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.164 dated 14.09.2021 registered under Section 21 (c) and 25 of the NDPS Act, 1985 at Police Station Special Task Force District STF Wing SAS Nagar, Mohali.

2. During the hearing, learned counsel for the petitioner submits that though the present petition has been filed for the grant of regular bail but the petitioner will be satisfied in case the trial Court is directed to conclude the trial in a time bound manner so that the petitioner does not suffer any further prejudice.

3. Notice of motion.

4. Mr. Gurpreet Singh, learned Addl. Advocate General, Punjab, who is present in the Court, accepts notice on behalf of the respondent-State.

5. Learned State counsel submits that as per the status of the trial, out of 15 cited witnesses, five witnesses have already been examined and 2 witnesses have already been given up and 4 witnesses have been summoned for 11.10.2023 and the State has no objection in case a direction is issued to the trial Court to conclude the trial in a time bound manner.

6. Keeping in view the facts and circumstances noticed hereinbefore, the trial Court is directed to conclude the trial by 31.12.2023 under all circumstances even if the short adjournments are to be granted and coercive action is to be taken for seeking the presence of the witnesses.

7. It may be noticed that in case the remaining witnesses are the official witnesses, Investigating Officer will inform all the official witnesses to remain present for their testimony on the date fixed failing which the trial Court will be well within its jurisdiction to direct the Superior Authority of the concerned witnesses, who do not appear, for taking appropriate departmental action against them.

8. The present petition is disposed of in above terms.

September 21, 2023
harsha

(HARSIMRAN SINGH SETHI)
JUDGE

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