

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

Neutral Citation No. **2024:PHHC:035138**
CRM-M-3986-2024
Date of Decision: March 12, 2024

Manjit Singh

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE DEEPAK GUPTA

Present:- Mr. Ripudaman Singh Brar, Advocate for the petitioner.

DEEPAK GUPTA, J.(Oral)

By way of present petition filed under Section 439 Cr.P.C., petitioner prays for his release on regular bail in case FIR No.44 dated 02.05.2022, under Section 22 of the Narcotic Drugs Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985, registered at Police Station Payal, Khanna.

2. As per the allegations, during patrolling, petitioner and co-accused Kuldeep Singh were apprehended. Petitioner was found in possession of 1620 tablets of intoxicating tablets containing the salt Alprazolam, the weight of which was found to be approximately 350 grams. Co-accused Kuldeep Singh was found in possession to 2380 intoxicating tablets containing the salt of Tramadol Hydrochloride.

3. Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that petitioner has been falsely implicated; that co-accused Kuldeep Singh has already been allowed bail by this Court vide order dated 29.11.2023 passed in CRM-M-18074-2023; that petitioner is not involved in any other case; that petitioner is in custody for the last more than 01 year and 10 months and that the trial may take long time to conclude, so he be allowed bail.

4. Notice of motion.

5. Mr. Amandeep Singh, DAG, Punjab accepts notice on behalf of respondent-State.

6. Learned State counsel has opposed the bail petition by pointing out that the quantity of contraband as recovered from the petitioner falls in the commercial category. However, learned State counsel could not refute the contention that the petitioner has no other criminal case pending against him and that he is in custody for the last 01 year, 10 months and 11 days, as per the custody certificate placed on record. Co-accused Kuldeep Singh has already been allowed bail. It is also informed by learned counsel, on instructions from ASI Paramjit Singh, that out of 10 witnesses cited by the prosecution, only 02 have been examined so far. Thus trial is likely to take long time to conclude.

7. Having regard to all the aforesaid facts and circumstances, but without commenting anything on the merits of the case, petitioner is admitted to bail. He is ordered to be released on bail on his furnishing requisite bail bonds and surety bonds to the satisfaction of learned Trial Court/Duty Magistrate concerned, on usual terms and conditions.

Allowed.

March 12, 2024

sarita

(DEEPAK GUPTA)

JUDGE

Whether reasoned/speaking: Yes/No

Whether reportable: Yes/No