

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

212

2024:PHHC:009573

CRM-M-21376-2021

Date of decision: January 24th, 2024

Harpal Singh @ Pal

.....Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

.....Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE MANJARI NEHRU KAUL

Present: Mr. Ranjit Singh Sidhu, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Mohit Kapoor, Additional Advocate General, Punjab.

MANJARI NEHRU KAUL, J. (ORAL).

Petitioner is seeking the concession of bail under Section 439 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 in case FIR No.187 dated 14.09.2020 registered under Section 22 (C) of the NDPS Act, registered at Police Station Sangat, District Bathinda.

2. At the outset, learned State counsel, on instructions, has informed the Court that the trial is at the stage of final arguments and the case is fixed before the trial Court for today itself.

3. Learned counsel appearing for the petitioner has drawn the attention of this Court to order dated 22.03.2023, wherein similar instructions had been received by the learned State counsel. It has been submitted that even though the prosecution evidence stood concluded more than a year back, the trial had not concluded and hence, the petitioner be enlarged on bail.

4. I have heard learned counsel for the parties and perused the relevant material on record.

5. The petitioner has been in custody since 14.09.2020.

As not disputed by the learned counsel for the petitioner also, prosecution evidence stands concluded.

6. In the circumstances, keeping in mind the long custody period of the petitioner and the prosecution evidence having admittedly concluded almost a year back, the trial Court is directed to conclude the trial expeditiously preferably on or before 28.02.2024.

7. The instant petition stands dismissed.

January 24th, 2024
Puneet

(MANJARI NEHRU KAUL)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes
Whether reportable : No