

Learned counsel further submits that the petitioner was arrested on 28.09.2024 and is in custody since then; final report under Section 173 Cr.P.C. has already been submitted; trial will still take a sufficiently long time and, therefore, no useful purpose would be served by keeping the petitioner in custody any longer.

4. *Per contra*, learned counsel representing the State of Punjab submits that if the petitioner is released on bail, he may try to influence and threaten the witnesses and may also abscond.

5. Having considered the submissions made by learned counsel for the parties, this Court is of the considered opinion that the petitioner deserves to be released on bail. As per the custody certificate filed in the Court today, the petitioner is in custody for the last 03 months. Final report under Section 173 Cr.P.C. has already been submitted and trial is likely to take some time. No useful purpose would be served by keeping the petitioner in custody any longer.

6. In view of the aforementioned facts and circumstances, without expressing any opinion on the merits of the case, the present petition is allowed. The petitioner is ordered to be released on regular bail on his furnishing bail/surety bonds to the satisfaction of the concerned trial Court/Chief Judicial Magistrate/Duty Magistrate.

30.12.2024

Prince Chawla

(VIKRAM AGGARWAL)
JUDGE

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