

2025:PHHC:082717



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

218 (02 cases)

1. CRM-M-26127-2025 (O&M)

Saurav Kumar @ Laddi Dhuria

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

...Respondent

2. CRM-M-26164-2025 (O&M)

Harpreet Kaur

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

...Respondent

Date of decision : 10.07.2025

CORAM: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE MANISHA BATRA

Present:- Mr. Sukhwinder S. Dhillon, Advocate
for the petitioner in CRM-M-26127-2025.

Mr. Jaskirat Singh Dhaliwal, Advocate
for the petitioner in CRM-M-26164-2025.

Ms. Sakshi Bakshi, AAG, Punjab.

MANISHA BATRA, J. (Oral)

1. This common order shall dispose of above mentioned two petitions as they arise out of the same FIR and seek similar reliefs.

2. The present petitions have been filed by the petitioners under Section 483 of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 for grant of regular bail to them in case arising out of FIR No. 28 dated 01.03.2025, registered under Sections 22, 22(B), 27-A and 29 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 (*for short 'NDPS Act'*) at Police Station City Malout, District Sri Muktsar Sahib.

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3. Brief facts of the case relevant for the disposal of the present petition are that on 01.03.2025, petitioner Harpreet Kaur and co-accused Sandeep Singh were apprehended by a police party and recovery of 80 loose intoxicating tablets and an amount of Rs.1 Lakh was effected from them. Upon interrogation, he disclosed that he used to purchase the intoxicating drugs from the present petitioner. On the basis of the same, petitioner Saurav Kumar @ Laddi Dhuria was also nominated in this case as accused and was arrested on 06.03.2025. Sample parcels were sent to FSL for chemical examination and it was found that the recovered tablets were containing *Clonazepam* and the total weight of the tablets came to be 10.88 grams. Offence under Section 22(B) of the NDPS Act was also added on 25.04.2025. After completion of necessary investigation and usual formalities, *challan* has been presented in the Court on 29.04.2025 and presently, the petitioners along with co-accused are facing trial for commission of aforementioned offences.

4. Learned counsel for the petitioners have argued that the petitioners have been falsely implicated in this case. The alleged recovery of the contraband effected in this case was in fact planted one. Mandatory provisions of the NDPS Act were not complied with. Petitioner Saurav Kumar @ Laddi Dhuria has been nominated in this case on the basis of the disclosure statement suffered by co-accused Sandeep Singh, which is not admissible in evidence. The petitioners are not involved in any other case under the NDPS Act. More so, the quantity of the recovered contraband does not fall under commercial quantity. Even otherwise, investigation stands completed and *challan* has been filed on 29.04.2025. Conclusion of trial is likely to take time. No useful purpose would be served by keeping them in custody anymore. It is, therefore, urged that the petitions

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deserve to be allowed and the petitioners deserve to be released on bail.

5. Separate status reports have been filed by the respondent-State. It is submitted therein and learned Assistant Advocate General, Punjab has argued that the petitioners are not entitled to get benefit of bail as there are serious allegations against them. Petitioner Harpreet Kaur was apprehended at the spot along with co-accused Sandeep Singh and recovery of 80 loose tablets of Clonazepam and drug money of Rs.1 Lakh was effected from them. So far as petitioner Saurav Kumar @ Laddi Dhuria is concerned, he has been nominated in this case on the basis of the disclosure statement suffered by co-accused Sandeep Singh. During the course of investigation, his complicity has been duly established. Trial is going on at a proper pace. It is, thus, argued that the petitions are liable to be dismissed.

6. I have heard learned counsel for the parties at considerable length and have also perused the material placed on record.

7. Petitioner Harpreet Kaur was apprehended along with co-accused Sandeep Singh on 01.03.2025 and recovery of 80 tablets of Clonazepam and drug money of Rs.1 Lakh is shown to have been effected from them. Petitioner Saurav Kumar @ Laddi Dhuria was nominated subsequently on the basis of the disclosure statement of co-accused Sandeep Singh on the allegations that he used to supply intoxicating drugs to co-accused. The quantity of the contraband recovered in this case obviously does not fall within commercial quantity. The petitioners are in custody since 06.03.2025 and 01.03.2025, respectively. Investigation stands completed and challan has been filed. Conclusion of trial would likely take some time. Keeping in view the aforementioned facts and circumstances, I am of the considered opinion that the petitioners are entitled to

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be released on bail. Accordingly, the present petitions are allowed. The petitioners are ordered to be released on regular bail, subject to their furnishing personal/surety bonds to the satisfaction of the trial Court/Duty Magistrate concerned. However, it will be open for the prosecution to apply for cancellation of bail in case the petitioners are found involved in any other subsequent case.

9. It is made clear that any observation made herein above is only for the purpose of deciding the present petitions and the same shall have no bearing on the merits of the case.

10. Let a photocopy of this order be placed on the file of the connected case.

10.07.2025

Waseem Ansari

(MANISHA BATRA)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned

Yes/No

Whether reportable

Yes/No