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

CRM-M-26252-2025

Date of decision : 20.05.2025

Manpreet Singh @ Sukha

....Petitioner

versus

State of Punjab

..... Respondent

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE RAJESH BHARDWAJ

Present :- Mr. Rajiv Kumar Saini, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. J.S. Arora, D.A.G., Punjab.

RAJESH BHARDWAJ, J. (Oral)

1. Present third petition has been filed by the petitioner praying for grant of regular bail in case FIR No.08 dated 23.01.2024, under Sections 21(b), 27-A of NDPS Act, registered at Police Station Dhariwal, District Gurdaspur.

2. As per the facts of the case, on 23.01.2024 the Police party while on patrolling, spotted a car, in which two persons were sitting. The car was stopped and on asking the driver of the car disclosed his name as Manpreet Singh @ Sukha (petitioner) and the person sitting next to him, disclosed his name as Mandeep Singh @ Sonu. Mandeep Singh @ Sonu threw a polythene bag in the back seat of the car, which was suspected to be narcotic substance. On checking of the same, it was found to be 29 grams of heroin. Both the persons failed to produce any licence regarding the possession of the same. Thus, the FIR was registered and they were arrested on the spot. On registration of the FIR, the investigation commenced. Samples taken were sent to the FSL. On completion of the investigation, challan was presented and learned trial Court framed the



charges. The petitioner approached the Court of learned Judge, Special Court, Gurdaspur praying for grant of bail. However, finding no merit, the same was declined vide order dated 13.03.2024. Petitioner earlier approached this Court twice by way of filing of CRM-M-18041-2024 and CRM-M-64093-2024, but the same were dismissed as withdrawn vide orders dated 25.07.2024 and 10.01.2025, respectively. Hence, the petitioner is before this Court praying for grant of bail by way of filing of present third petition.

3. Learned counsel for the petitioners, at the outset, prays for the grant of bail to the petitioner on the basis of parity with that of the co-accused, namely, Mandeep Singh @ Sonu. He has drawn the attention of this Court to the order dated 21.11.2024 passed in **CRM-M-56994-2024**, whereby, co-accused, namely, Mandeep Singh @ Sonu, has been granted regular bail by this Court. He has submitted that the case of the petitioner is at par with the said co-accused. He submits that the petitioner is in custody since 23.01.2024. He submits that on the basis of the parity, the petitioner deserves to be granted bail as the case of the petitioner is similar to that of the said co-accused, who has already been granted bail.

4. Learned counsel for the State has endorsed the factum of grant of bail to the co-accused of the petitioner as stated above and has not denied that the petitioner is at par with the co-accused, namely, Mandeep Singh @ Sonu. He has submitted that investigation is complete and charges are also framed.

5. After hearing learned counsel for the parties and perusing the record, it is deciphered that the petitioner is behind bars since 23.01.2024. The alleged recovery was effected from a polythene bag lying in the car and the quantity of contraband is non-commercial quantity. Investigation



is complete and co-accused, namely, Mandeep Singh @ Sonu, is on bail and the case of the petitioner as stated is at par with him.

6. The veracity of the allegations would be assessed only after conclusion of the trial and on the appreciation of evidence to be led by both the parties before the trial Court. The trial of the case will take sufficiently long time. Thus, keeping in view the overall facts and circumstances of the case, this Court is of the opinion that learned counsel for the petitioner succeeds in making out a case for grant of regular bail to the petitioner on the basis of parity. Accordingly, the present petition is allowed and the petitioner is ordered to be released on bail on his furnishing bail/surety bonds to the satisfaction of the concerned trial Court/Duty Magistrate.s Nothing said herein shall be treated as an expression of opinion on the merits of the case.

20.05.2025
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(RAJESH BHARDWAJ)
JUDGE

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