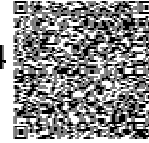


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**IN THE HIGH COURT FOR THE STATES OF PUNJAB AND
HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH**

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CRM-M-31453-2025 (O&M)
Date of decision : 10.11.2025

Akashdeep Singh @ Akashi

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE MANISHA BATRA

Present:- Mr. Rishu Mahajan, Advocate
for the petitioner.

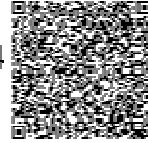
Mr. Roshandeep Singh, AAG, Punjab.

MANISHA BATRA, J. (Oral)

1. Prayer in this petition, filed under Section 483 of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, is for grant of regular bail to the petitioner in FIR No. 94 dated 28.05.2024, registered under Sections 21-C, 27-A, 25, 28, 29 and 30 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 (*for short 'NDPS Act'*) and Section 25 of the Arms Act, 1959 at Police Station Tarn Taran, District Tarn Taran.

2. Brief facts of the case relevant for the purpose of disposal of the present petition are that on 28.05.2024, a secret information was received that the petitioner along with the co-accused was involved in the business of selling heroin and funding other smugglers with the drug money and giving shelter to them as well as to each other by supporting financially or by exchange of vehicles. It was also informed that they could be apprehended on that day as they were travelling in an Innova vehicle bearing registration No.PB-13-BM-9986 and contraband could be recovered from them. Believing the secret

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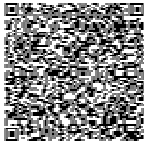
information to be true, a raiding party was formed which reached at the informed place and intercepted the aforementioned vehicle. The petitioner along with co-accused Amandeep Singh and Inderjit Singh were found to be the occupants of the said car. On conducting search, drug money to the tune of Rs.4.30 lakhs was recovered from the present petitioner, whereas recovery of drug money of Rs. 3.50 lakhs and Rs. 5 lakhs was recovered from co-accused Inderjit Singh and Amandeep Singh, respectively. Co-accused Inderjit Singh also got recovered 01 kg. of heroin along with one 9 MM pistol. The investigation now stands concluded.

3. It is argued by learned counsel for the petitioner that he has been falsely implicated in this case. No contraband has been recovered from him. A false recovery of drug money was planted upon him. The provisions of the NDPS Act are not attracted against him. The trial will take considerable time. His further incarceration would not serve any useful purpose. He is not involved in any other case under the NDPS Act. Similarly situated co-accused Amandeep Singh Pahwa @ Aman has already been granted concession of regular bail by this Court. On parity, the petitioner too deserves the same benefit. It is, therefore, urged that he deserves to be released on bail.

4. Status report has been filed. It is argued by learned Assistant Advocate General, Punjab that there are specific allegations against the petitioner. The bar of Section 37 of NDPS Act is attracted against him. There are chances of his absconding or committing similar offences if extended benefit of bail. It is, therefore, urged that the petition does not deserve to be allowed.

5. This Court has heard the submissions of both the sides.

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6. The petitioner is alleged to have been found in possession of cash amount of Rs.4.30 lakhs which is claimed to be drug money. No contraband had been recovered from him and recovery of commercial quantity of contraband is alleged to have been effected from the conscious possession of co-accused Inderjit Singh in pursuance of his disclosure statement. It is a matter of evidence as to whether the money recovered from the petitioner was drug money. The rigors of Section 37 of NDPS Act are not attracted qua the petitioner but qua the co-accused. The petitioner is in custody for a period of over one year and three months. He is not shown to be involved in any other case of similar nature. Similarly situated co-accused Amandeep Singh Pahwa @ Aman has already been granted concession of bail by this Court. Keeping in view the nature of the allegations as levelled against him, the period of his incarceration and the attendant facts and circumstances, this Court is of the opinion that he has made out a case for his release on bail. Accordingly, the present petition is allowed. The petitioner is ordered to be released on regular bail, subject to his 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 petitioner is found involved in any other similar case in future.

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

10.11.2025

Waseem Ansari

(MANISHA BATRA)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned

Yes/No

Whether reportable

Yes/No