

**CRM-M-63959-2025****1****IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH****143****CRM-M-63959-2025****Decided on :16.03.2026**

Manpreet Singh alias Mani

. . . Petitioner(s)

Versus

State of Punjab

. . . Respondent(s)

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY VASHISTH

Present: Mr. S.S. Maini, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Iqbalpreet Singh, AAG, Punjab.

-.-

SANJAY VASHISTH, J. (Oral)

1. Present petition has been filed under Section 483 of BNSS, seeking regular bail in case FIR No.195 dated 18.08.2025, under Sections 21(b), 27A of NDPS Act (Section 29 of NDPS Act was added later on), registered at Police Station City Kotkapura, District Faridkot.
2. As per the case of the prosecution, on being stopped by the patrolling party, two young boys were found in possession of an Activa scooter bearing registration No. PB-79-A-1442. Upon enquiry, they disclosed their names as Manpreet Singh @ Mani (petitioner herein) and Ashok Singh @ Ashok. On conducting a search in the dickey of the scooter, a black transparent polythene envelope containing 50 grams of heroin along with Rs. 10,000/- as alleged drug money was recovered.
3. Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that quantity recovered is much below the statutory threshold of 250 grams. Petitioner

**CRM-M-63959-2025****2**

is in judicial custody for a period of last about six months and has clean antecedents, having never been involved in any criminal case. Counsel further submits that the trial is likely to take considerable time, as none of the prosecution witnesses have been examined till date, despite the completion of investigation. In these circumstances, further detention of petitioner would not serve any meaningful purpose for the prosecution. Accordingly, counsel prays for the grant of regular bail to the petitioner.

4. Learned State counsel has filed the custody certificate of the petitioner in Court today, which is taken on record. While confirming the period of custody and also acknowledges that the petitioner is not involved in any other case, learned State counsel submits that the investigation in the present case is complete and petitioner has been named in the FIR for involvement in the offence. Therefore, learned State counsel prays for dismissal of present petition.

5. I have heard learned counsel for the parties and perused the paper-book along with the documents appended thereto.

6. Considering the fact that the petitioner is in judicial custody for a period of more than six months, quantity of contraband recovered is below the statutory threshold, and the trial is yet to commence with none of the prosecution witnesses examined, this Court finds no substantial justification to continue the detention of the petitioner. In view of his clean antecedents and the stage of the trial, this Court finds merit in the prayer of the petitioner.

Thus, without commenting on the merits of the case, present petition is allowed . Petitioner is ordered to be released on bail, subject to

**CRM-M-63959-2025****3**

his furnishing bail/surety bonds to the satisfaction of the learned trial Court/ Chief Judicial Magistrate/Illaq Magistrate/ Duty Magistrate concerned, if not required in any other case.

7. Any of the discussion done and recorded hereabove, shall not be construed as an expression of opinion on the facts of the case. Therefore, trial Court is expected to decide the case by taking an independent view, on the basis of evidence available on record, as expeditiously as possible in accordance with law.

8. It is further made clear that if, in future, petitioner is found to be directly involved in similar activities, the prosecution would be at liberty to seek cancellation of bail.

9. Petition stands disposed of.

(SANJAY VASHISTH)
JUDGE

16.03.2026***Rashmi***

Whether speaking/reasoned: Yes/No

Whether Reportable: Yes/No