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

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CRM-M-69704-2025 (O&M)
Date of decision : 19.02.2026

Sandeep Singh @ Deepa

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE MANISHA BATRA

Present:- Mr. Shadab Ahmed, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Ms. Ruchika Sabherwal, Senior DAG, 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. 20 dated 18.03.2025, registered under Sections 22 and 29 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 (*for short 'NDPS Act'*) at Police Station Pojewal, District SBS Nagar.

2. Brief facts of the case relevant for the disposal of the present petition are that on 18.03.2025, co-accused Nicklavya Nardeekshkar Chandhar @ Niklavya @ Nishant was apprehended by a police party and recovery of 40 intoxicating tablets of Etizolam was effected from him. Since he could not produce any valid license or permit to keep in his possession, the recovered drug, he was formally arrested at the spot. Upon interrogation, he disclosed that the recovered contraband was purchased by him from the present petitioner. On the basis of the same, the petitioner was nominated in this case and was arrested on 18.06.2025. He suffered disclosure statement admitting his

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involvement in the subject crime. After completion of necessary investigation and usual formalities, *challan* was presented in the Court and presently, the petitioner along with the co-accused is facing trial for commission of aforesaid mentioned offences.

3. It is argued by learned counsel for the petitioner that he has been falsely implicated in this case on the basis of the disclosure statement of the above named co-accused, which cannot be considered to be admissible in evidence. He has clean antecedents. There is nothing on record to connect the petitioner with the subject crime. Moreover, the quantity of the recovered contraband does not fall under commercial quantity. Hence, the bar under Section 37 of the NDPS Act is not attracted at all. Even otherwise, investigation stands completed and *challan* has been filed. Conclusion of trial is likely to take time. The petitioner is in custody since 18.06.2025. Co-accused Nicklavya Nardeekshkar Chandhar @ Niklavya @ Nishant, from whom the alleged recovery was effected, has already been granted concession of regular bail by this Court. On parity, he too deserves to be given the same benefit. No useful purpose would be served by keeping him in custody anymore. Therefore, it is urged that the petition deserves to be allowed and the petitioner deserves to be released on regular bail.

4. Status report has been filed by the respondent-State. It is argued by learned State counsel that keeping in view the gravity of the allegations levelled against the petitioner, he is not entitled to get benefit of bail. Hence, it is urged that the petition is liable to be dismissed.

5. This Court has heard the rival submissions.

6. The petitioner is in custody since 18.06.2025. He has been

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implicated in this case on the basis of the disclosure statement suffered by above named co-accused. As per FSL report, the quantity of the contraband allegedly recovered from the co-accused does not fall under commercial quantity. The petitioner is not shown to be involved in any other case and has clean antecedents. Investigation stands completed and *challan* has been filed. Conclusion of trial would take considerable time. Main accused has already been granted concession of bail, as mentioned above. Keeping in view the aforesaid facts, this Court is of the considered opinion that no useful purpose would be served by keeping him in custody anymore. 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 subsequent case.

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.

19.02.2026

Waseem Ansari

(MANISHA BATRA)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned

Yes/No

Whether reportable

Yes/No