



CRM-M-71909-2025

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

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CRM-M-71909-2025

Date of decision: 19.02.2026

DAVINDER SINGH ALIAS DEVINDER SINGH

.....PETITIONER

Versus

STATE OF HARYANA

..... RESPONDENT

CORAM: HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE SURYA PARTAP SINGH

Present: Ms. Savita Rana, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Ramender Singh Chauhan, AAG, Haryana

SURYA PARTAP SINGH, J.

1. This is first petition for bail filed by the petitioner with regard to a case arising out of FIR No.50 dated 25.01.2025 under Sections 15(c)/61/85 [Sections 25, 27A and 29 added later on] of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985, hereinafter being referred to as 'NDPS' only, Police Station Rania, District Sirsa. The above-mentioned FIR came into being at the instance of SI Tarsem Singh.

2. It was reported by the above named Sub Inspector that on 25.01.2025 when he was leading a team of police officials and was performing duty at the barricades on canal bridge, a motorcycle was spotted. As per above named police officer, when the above mentioned biker was signalled to stop the motorcycle, he abruptly tried to take a U-turn. As per above named police official, on the basis of suspicion the above mentioned person was apprehended and thereafter, it was found that on the motorcycle he was



carrying three sacks containing poppy husk. According to the above named police official when the weight of above mentioned sacks was measured, it was found that in three sacks he was carrying 56 kgs. & 550 grams of poppy husk.

3. It is the case of prosecution that in view of above mentioned recovery, the requisite formalities with regard to seal and seizure of contraband, lodging of FIR and arrest of the accused were undertaken. According to prosecution, thereafter the investigation of the case was taken up and during the course of investigation, the above named accused, namely Jaila Singh suffered a disclosure statement, nominating therein Joga Singh and Harvinder Singh. It has been alleged by the prosecution that Jaila Singh had stated that the contraband was supplied to him by Joga Singh and Harvinder Singh and therefore, Harvinder Singh was arrested by the police party, who, on interrogation disclosed the name of Davinder Singh (petitioner herein) and Rajinder Singh.

4. Heard.

5. The record has been perused carefully.

6. A perusal of record shows that in the present case, following are the relevant factors which are required to be taken into consideration, for a decision: -

- i) that the petitioner is already in custody for a period more than 05 months;
- ii) that the petitioner has been nominated on the basis of disclosure statement of his co-accused from whose possession also, nothing has been recovered;
- iii) that there is a question mark with regard to credibility and admissibility in evidence of disclosure statement suffered by the co-accused, whereby the petitioner has been nominated, as the



same was recorded when the maker of it was in police custody and the above mentioned disclosure statement did not lead to recovery of any incriminating material/discovery of any fact pertaining to the present case;

- iv) that nothing is left to be recovered from the possession of petitioner;
- v) that the detention of petitioner in judicial lock-up is not likely to serve any useful purpose;
- vi) that the trial is not likely to be concluded in near future;
- vii) that there is nothing on record to show that if released on bail, the petitioner may tamper with the evidence or influence the witnesses;
- viii) that there is nothing on record to show that if released on bail, the petitioner will not co-operate/participate in the trial.

7. In the present case, the principles of law laid down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in the case of 'Dataram versus State of Uttar Pradesh and another', (2018) 3 SCC 22, are relevant, wherein it has been observed that "a fundamental postulate of criminal jurisprudence is the presumption of innocence, meaning thereby that a person is believed to be innocent until found guilty. However, there are instances in our criminal law where a reverse onus has been placed on an accused with regard to some specific offences but that is another matter and does not detract from the fundamental postulate in respect of other offences. Yet another important facet of our criminal jurisprudence is that the grant of bail is the general rule and putting a person in jail or in a prison or in a correction home (whichever expression one may wish to use) is an exception. Unfortunately, some of these basic principles appear to have been lost sight of with the result that more and more persons are being incarcerated and for longer periods. This does not do any good to our criminal



jurisprudence or to our society. There is no doubt that the grant or denial of bail is entirely the discretion of the judge considering a case but even so, the exercise of judicial discretion has been circumscribed by a large number of decisions rendered by this Court and by every High Court in the country. Yet, occasionally there is a necessity to introspect whether denying bail to an accused person is the right thing to do on the facts and in the circumstances of a case”.

8. The principles laid down by the Hon’ble the Supreme Court of India in the case of ‘Satender Kumar Antil Vs. Central Bureau of Investigation and Another’ (2022) 10 SCC 51, are also relevant in this case. In the abovementioned case, it has been observed that “the rate of conviction in criminal cases in India is abysmally low. It appears to us that this factor weighs on the mind of the Court while deciding the bail applications in a negative sense. Courts tend to think that the possibility of a conviction being nearer to rarity, bail applications will have to be decided strictly, contrary to legal principles. We cannot mix up consideration of a bail application, which is not punitive in nature with that of a possible adjudication by way of trial. On the contrary, an ultimate acquittal with continued custody would be a case of grave injustice”.

9. Recently, in the case of ‘Tapas Kumar Palit Vs. State of Chhattisgarh’, 2025 SCC Online SC 322, the Hon’ble Supreme Court of India has observed that “if an accused is to get a final verdict after incarceration of six to seven years in jail as an undertrial prisoner, then, definitely, it could be said that his right to have a speedy trial under Article 21 of the Constitution has been infringed”. It has also been observed by the Hon’ble Supreme Court



of India in the abovementioned case that “delays are bad for the accused and extremely bad for the victims, for Indian society and for the credibility of our justice system, which is valued. Judges are the masters of their Courtrooms and the Criminal Procedure Code provides many tools for the Judges to use in order to ensure that cases proceed efficiently”.

10. Therefore, to elucidate further, this Court is conscious of the basic and fundamental principle of law that right to speedy trial is a part of reasonable, fair and just procedure enshrined under Article 21 of the Constitution of India. This constitutional right cannot be denied to the accused as mandated by Hon’ble Apex court in “Balwinder Singh versus State of Punjab and Another”, 2024 SCC Online SC 4354.

11. If the cumulative effect of all the abovementioned factors, involved in the instant case, is taken into consideration, it leads to a conclusion that the petitioner is entitled for the benefit of bail, and that the present petition deserves to be allowed.

12. Accordingly, without commenting anything on the merits of the case, the present petition is hereby **allowed**. The petitioner is hereby ordered to be released on bail on furnishing personal bond and surety bond(s) to the satisfaction of learned trial Court. However the abovesaid concession shall be subject to following conditions:-

- (i) that the petitioner shall not directly or indirectly make any inducement, threat or promise to any person acquainted with the facts of the case, so as to dissuade him to disclose such facts to the Court or to any other authority.
- (ii) that the petitioner shall at the time of execution of bond, furnish the address to the Court concerned and shall notify the change in



address to the trial Court, till the final decision of the trial; and
(iii) that the petitioner shall not leave India without prior permission
of the trial Court.

(SURYA PARTAP SINGH)
JUDGE

19.02.2026
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Whether speaking/reasoned	Yes/No
Whether reportable	Yes/No