

SURINDER PAL SINGH @ PRINCE
VS
STATE OF PUNJAB

Present: Mr. Satnam Singh Gill, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Mohit Kapoor, Addl. AG, Punjab.

The petitioner is seeking the concession of regular bail under Section 439 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 in case FIR No. 203 dated 28.07.2021 under Section 22 of NDPS Act, 1985, registered at Police Station Anaj Mandi, Patiala, District Patiala.

Learned counsel for the petitioner at the outset submits that both the co-accused i.e. Bharat Bhushan @ Rulda and Jaspreet Singh @ Preeti who were allegedly apprehended with the petitioner along with the contraband, had been extended concession of regular bail by this Court vide orders dated 31.10.2023 and 30.10.2023 respectively. He further submits that after the petitioner was apprehended on 28.01.2021 the trial had come to a virtual standstill as only 01 witness out of the 9 witnesses cited by the prosecution had been examined so far even though charges were framed way back on 24.03.2022. He further submits that in the aforementioned facts and circumstances since co-accused have already extended the concession of bail coupled with the fact that there is no likelihood of the trial concluding in the near future, he too be extended the same concession and be enlarged on bail.

Per contra learned State counsel has placed on record the custody certificate of the petitioner and has submitted that the petitioner cannot claim parity with the co-accused who have since been extended the concession of bail as he is a man of criminal antecedents. He further submits that all the 03

accused including the petitioner were apprehended alongwith 2400 tablets of Tramadol which stands classified as a commercial in nature under the NDPS Act.

Learned counsel for the petitioner has, however, prayed for short adjournment to verify the details of other criminal cases which have been registered/pending against him in particular, as per FIR No. 139 dated 14.09.2021 under Section 22 NDPS Act.

On request of counsel representing the petitioner, adjourned to 11.01.2024.

(MANJARI NEHRU KAUL)
JUDGE

07.12.2023
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