

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

**CRM-M No. 3803 of 2016 (O&M)
Date of Decision: 28.03.2016**

Pritam Singh

..... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

..... Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JASWANT SINGH

Present: Mr. A.S. Barnala, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Mikhail Kad, Assistant Advocate General, Punjab
for the respondent/State assisted by ASI Baljeet Singh.

JASWANT SINGH, J. (ORAL)

Prayer in this petition under Section 438 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, is for grant of anticipatory bail on behalf of the accused/petitioner-Pritam Singh in case FIR No. 12, dated 06.01.2016, for offence punishable under Section 135 of the Electricity Act, registered at Police Station Anti Power Theft, Patiala, District Patiala.

On the previous date of hearing on 03.02.2016, the following order was passed:-

“ The petitioner is accused of having committed theft of electricity as detected by a team of Sub Divisional Office, Tapa by running an electric motor by installing 28 meter cable wire from the LT Line with the help of fish hook. Penalty of sum of Rs. 91,800/- with compounding fee of Rs.10000/-, has been imposed.

The petitioner claims that he has, under protest, deposited 50% of the amount of penalty imposed on him.

Notice of motion for 28.3.2016.

Meanwhile, the petitioner will join the investigation on 13.2.2016. In case of his doing so, he will be released on interim bail to the satisfaction of the arresting officer. ”

At the time of hearing, learned State Counsel, assisted by ASI Baljeet Singh submits that the petitioner has joined the investigation and further states that the petitioner is no longer required for custodial interrogation.

In view of the above, the interim protection/pre-arrest bail granted to the petitioner by this Court's order dated 03.02.2016, is made absolute.

Disposed of.

March 28, 2016

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**(JASWANT SINGH)
JUDGE**