

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

1. **CRM-M-35864-2017 (O&M)**
Rachit Arora
.....Petitioner
Versus
State of Punjab
.....Respondent
2. **CRM-M-46284-2017 (O&M)**
Amit Sethi
....Petitioner
Versus
State of Punjab
....Respondent
3. **CRM-M-49418-2017 (O&M)**
Satish Arora
....Petitioner
Versus
State of Punjab
....Respondent

Date of decision: 9.8.2018

CORAM : HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE GURVINDER SINGH GILL

Present: Mr. Shaurya Puri, Advocate for
Mr. P.S.Ahluwalia, Advocate
for the petitioner in **CRM-M-35864-2017**.

Mr. Rahul Bhargava, Advocate
for the petitioner in **CRM-M-46284-2017**.

Mr. Virender Kumar, Advocate for
Mr. Vikas Kuthiala, Advocate
for the petitioner in **CRM-M-49418-2017**.

Mr. A.S. Sandhu, Addl. A.G., Punjab
assisted by ASI Malkiat Singh.

GURVINDER SINGH GILL, J. (ORAL)

This order shall dispose of above-mentioned three petitions filed on behalf of Rachit Arora, Amit Sethi and Satish Arora seeking anticipatory bail in FIR No.10 dated 15.5.2017, under Sections 17, 18 and 19 of Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, Sections 65, 66, 66-C, 66-F of Information and Technology Act, Sections 420, 465, 467, 471 of IPC and Sections 25/27 of the Arms Act, Police Station State Special Operation Cell, District Amritsar.

The FIR was lodged on the basis of a secret information received to the effect that several persons are into betting in respect of IPL matches and into anti-national activities and a large portion of their income from betting is used for sponsoring gangsters who indulged in anti-national activities. The information was further to the effect that the main persons who are into betting are Neeraj Bhatia @ Kaka, Anand Avenue, Bharat Bedi, Ajay Bhatia, Rachit Arora, Amit Sethi, Vishal, Sareefpura, Sunny alias Deva, Deepak Kumar alias Deepu, Balwinder Singh alias Monty, Ishwar KC and Nikhil Pahwa.

Notice of petitions was issued to the State.

Vide order dated 16.11.2017 Assistant Inspector General, State Special Operation Cell, Amritsar had been added as a respondent and had been directed to send a formal reply to the petition.

Separate replies by way of affidavit of Baldev Singh, PPS, Deputy Superintendent of Police, State Special Operations Cell, Amritsar have been filed in the aforesaid three petitions and the same are taken on record. In reply, it has been stated that immediately upon receipt of the aforesaid information, raids had been conducted and Balwinder Singh alias Monty and his brother Sarabjit Singh alias Nannu, Ishwar Kesi and Nikhil Pahwa had been apprehended who were into illegal betting business and that 5 illegal telephone exchanges, 42 cell phones attached to exchanges, 2 laptops, 2 pistols .32 bore along with 12 alive cartridges, 7 cell phones, 2 tablets, 1 printer, 1 internet connection and Rs.1.05 lacs in cash were recovered from their possession. It has further been deposed therein that the present petitioners were also operating illegal betting cartel from Delhi, Bombay and Amritsar.

Today at the very outset learned State counsel on instructions from ASI Malkiat Singh has stated that the petitioners have since joined investigation and are no longer required for the purpose of custodial interrogation.

Bearing in mind the nature of allegations and the fact that the challan has already been presented, in my opinion it is not a case where custodial interrogation is warranted at this stage. Consequently, the petitions are accepted and interim directions issued vide order dated 30.10.2017 passed in **CRM-M-35864-2017**, order dated 6.12.2017 passed in **CRM-M-46284-2017** and order dated 22.12.2017 passed in **CRM-M-49418-2017** are made absolute subject to the condition that the petitioners would appear before the learned trial Court regularly and abide by any other condition

as may be imposed by the learned trial Court.

The petitions are accepted in the above terms.

August 9, 2018
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(Gurvinder Singh Gill)
Judge

Whether reasoned / speaking?	Yes / No
Whether reportable?	Yes / No