



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

**CRM-M-2296-2025 (O&M)
Date of decision: 10.03.2025**

Sanjeev Kumar

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MAHABIR SINGH SINDHU

Present:- Ms. Anmol Thakur, Advocate for
Mr. Sandeep Arora, Advocate for the petitioner.

Ms. Manjot Kaur, AAG, Punjab for the respondent.

MAHABIR SINGH SINDHU, J.

Present petition has been filed under Section 482 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (*for short* 'BNSS') for grant of pre-arrest bail to the petitioner in FIR No.204 dated 17.12.2024 (P-1), under Section 61 of the Punjab Excise Act, 1914, registered at Police Station Basti Bawa Khel, Police Commissionerate Jalandhar.

(2) Allegations are that 1200 bottles of illicit liquor were recovered from the petitioner without having any license or permit.

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(3) Contends that petitioner was granted interim protection by this Court, vide order dated 23.01.2025 and in pursuance thereof, he has already joined the investigation; hence, his custodial interrogation is not required.

(4) The above factual position is not disputed by learned State Counsel, on instructions from ASI Barinder Kumar and submits that as on today, custodial interrogation of the petitioner is not required.

(5) Heard learned Counsel for the parties and perused the paper-book.

(6) It transpires that petitioner was granted interim protection by this Court, vide order dated 23.01.2025 and the order reads as under:-

“Status report by way of affidavit dated 22.01.2025 of Mr. Harshpreet Singh, PPS, Assistant Commissioner of Police West, Jalandhar on behalf of respondent has been filed and the same is taken on record. Copy supplied to the other side.

Registry to tag the same at appropriate place.

Posted for 10.03.2025.

In the meanwhile, petitioner shall join investigation before the Investigating Officer, but he be not arrested till the next date of hearing.”

(7) It is duly acknowledged by learned State Counsel that in pursuance of the aforesaid order, petitioner has joined investigation and his custodial interrogation is not required.

(8) In view of the above, there is no justification to deny the concession of pre-arrest bail to the petitioner. Consequently, present petition

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is allowed; interim order dated 23.01.2025 is made absolute subject to the conditions as envisaged under Section 482 (2) of the BNSS.

(9) It is also made clear that petitioner shall fully co-operate with the Investigating Officer as and when called for further investigation.

(10) The above observations be not construed as an expression of opinion on merits of the case; rather confined only to decide the bail matter.

(11) It is also clarified that in case of any recurrence on the part of petitioner, State would be at liberty to move an appropriate application for recalling of this order.

Pending application(s), if any, shall also stand disposed off.

10th March, 2025
Gagan

(MAHABIR SINGH SINDHU)
JUDGE

<i>Whether speaking/reasoned</i>	<i>Yes/No</i>
<i>Whether Reportable</i>	<i>Yes/No</i>