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

**CRM-M-12220-2025 (O&M)  
Date of decision : 28.04.2025**

Sukhdev Singh @ Sukha

..Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

...Respondent

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MAHABIR SINGH SINDHU**

Present: Mr. R.S. Sidhu, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. T.P.S. Walia, AAG, Punjab.

**MAHABIR SINGH SINDHU, J.**

Present petition under Section 482 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (for short, 'the B.N.S.S.') has been filed for grant of pre-arrest bail to the petitioner in FIR No.130 dated 13.11.2024, under Section 61 of the Punjab Excise Act, 1914, registered at Police Station Bhikhiwind, District Tarn Taran.

(2) Allegations are that petitioner is used to manufacture and sell illicit liquor at home and total 400 KG of *laahan* (illicit liquor) was recovered from his house.

(3) Learned counsel contends that petitioner was granted interim bail by this Court, vide order dated 05.03.2025 and in pursuance thereof, he has already joined the investigation; hence, his custodial interrogation is not required.



(4) Learned State counsel, on instructions from the quarter concerned, acknowledged the above factual position, 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 bail by this Court, vide order dated 05.03.2025 and the order reads as under:-

*“Contends, inter alia, that recovery of alleged contraband i.e 400 Kg of lahan has already been effected and petitioner is ready to join the investigation.*

*Notice of motion.*

*At this stage, Mr. Kunwarbir Singh, learned AAG, Punjab accepts notice on behalf of respondent; seeks time to have instructions and/or to file response in the matter.*

*Posted for 28.04.2025.*

*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 is allowed; interim order dated 05.03.2025 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.

28.04.2025

d.gulati

(MAHABIR SINGH SINDHU)  
JUDGE

|                               |     |    |
|-------------------------------|-----|----|
| Whether speaking / reasoned : | Yes | No |
| Whether Reportable :          | Yes | No |