



CRM-M-18860-2025(O&M)

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

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CRM-M-18860-2025(O&M)

Date of decision: 31st July, 2025

Ram Lal

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE MANISHA BATRA

Present: Ms. Komal Balyan, Advocate for the petitioner.
(Legal Aid counsel)

Mr. Roshandeep Singh, Assistant Advocate General, Punjab.

MANISHA BATRA, J (ORAL):-**CRM-14235-2025**

This application has been filed by the petitioner for exemption of Aadhar Card or any other proof of the petitioner.

For the reasons mentioned in the application, the same is allowed, subject to all just exceptions.

Main case

The present petition has been filed under Section 483 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (for short 'BNSS') by the petitioner seeking grant of regular bail in case bearing FIR No. 125 dated 07.11.2023 registered under Sections 379-B(2), 411, 148, 149 and 120-B of IPC and Section 25 of Arms Act, 1959 at Police Station Division-E, District Amritsar.

2. As per the allegations, on the night of 07.11.2023, the



complainant Nitesh Sarin was present in his shop along with his staff members when five unknown persons reached there. They were armed with weapons. They pointed the same towards the complainant and after extending threats to kill him, they looted cash kept in the counter and also took away his mobile phone and then they escaped. On his statement, the aforementioned FIR was registered. Investigation proceedings were initiated. During investigation, the complainant recorded his supplementary statement to the effect that the mobile phones of his officials had also been snatched apart from an amount of Rs. 5,00,000/-. The co-accused Princepal @ Sindhu, Manmohan Singh, Jatinder Singh @ Mithu and Gurjinder were subsequently arrested on 08.11.2023 on the basis of secret information. An amount of cash Rs. 4600/- was recovered from accused Princepal. One country made pistol along with four live cartridges and cash amounting to Rs. 21,400/- was recovered from accused Manmohan Singh and one country made pistol along with three live cartridges was recovered from co-accused Gurjinder Singh. Accused Manmohan Singh suffered a disclosure statement to the effect that accused Sunil Kumar had hatched a conspiracy with them to commit the subject offence. The accused Sham Lal was arrested subsequently. Two mobile phones were recovered from him. On the disclosure statement of the co-accused, the petitioner and some other co-accused were also nominated. The petitioner, who was arrested in FIR No. 308 was joined into the investigation of this case and suffered disclosure statement admitting his involvement in this case. Presently, he along with the co-accused is facing trial for the commission of the aforementioned offences.



3. It is argued by learned counsel for the petitioner that he has been falsely implicated in this case. He was not named in the FIR. Infact, he had an altercation with some police official some days back and was implicated in this case. Recovery already stands effected. Nothing is to be recovered from him. The co-accused Princepal @ Sindhu and Jatinder @ Mithu have already been extended benefit of bail. The eye-witnesses Baljit Singh and Amit Kumar have not supported the prosecution version and have turned hostile. He has a permanent abode. There are no chances of his absconding. The trial will take considerable time to conclude. On parity and even otherwise, he is entitled to be released on bail. It is, therefore, argued that the petition deserves to be allowed.

4. Status report has been filed. It is argued by learned State counsel that the petitioner is a habitual offender. There are chances of his committing similar offence or absconding, if extended benefit of bail. Therefore, it is urged that he does not deserve to be released on bail.

5. I have heard learned counsel for the parties at considerable length and have gone through the record carefully.

6. The petitioner along with the co-accused is alleged to have snatched the mobile phone of the complainant and his two assistants as well as cash amounting to Rs. 5,00,000/- from the shop of the complainant by putting him under fear and is then alleged to have escaped with the same. Co-accused Princepal @ Sindhu and Jatinder @ Mithu have been extended benefit of bail. Trial is likely to take considerable time to conclude. The involvement of the petitioner in some other cases cannot be considered to be a reason for denying benefit of bail to him. Keeping in view the period of



incarceration of the petitioner, the fact that the trial will take time, on parity and in view of the above discussed facts, this Court is of the considered opinion that a case for release of the petitioner is made out. Accordingly, the petition is allowed and the petitioner is ordered to be released on bail subject to his furnishing personal as well as surety bonds to the satisfaction of the Chief Judicial Magistrate/ Duty Magistrate concerned.

7. It is, however, clarified that the observations made hereinabove shall not be construed as an expression of opinion on the merits of the case.
8. Since the main petition has been allowed, pending application, if any, is rendered infructuous.

[MANISHA BATRA]
JUDGE

31st July, 2025
Parveen Sharma

1. Whether speaking/ reasoned

:

Yes / No
2. Whether reportable

:

Yes / No