



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

208

**CRM-M No.21718 of 2025
Date of decision: 23.05.2025**

TARLOCHAN SINGH

.... Petitioner

Versus

STATE OF PUNJAB

.... Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE MANISHA BATRA

Present : Mr. G.S. Verma, Advocate for the petitioner.
Ms. Sakshi Bakshi, AAG, Punjab.

MANISHA BATRA, J. (oral)

1. The present petition has been filed by the petitioner under Section 482 of of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023 for grant of anticipatory bail in case FIR No. 126, dated 17.11.2024, under Sections 21 of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and Section 303(2) of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (for short-‘BNS’), at Police Station Mehraban, District Ludhiana.

2. Vide order dated 25.04.2025, passed by this Court, the petitioner was granted interim bail and was directed to join investigation.

3. Reply dated 16.05.2025 filed on behalf of respondent-Stae is taken on record.

4. Learned State counsel, on instructions from the Investigating Officer, has submitted that that though the petitioner has joined investigation on 07.05.2025 but his custodial interrogation is required for the purpose of ascertaining as to how much illegal mining has been done by him, to unravel the modus operandi to commit the crime and for identification of other persons/officials of mining department if any, involved in illegal mining.

**CRM-M No.21718 of 2025**

-2-

4. This Court cannot justify the denial for pre-arrest bail since, an accused, while joining investigation, is not expected to make self incriminating statement under the threat that the State may seek withdrawal of the interim protection granted to him. So far as, the involvement of the other accused persons, their modus operandi and to ascertain certain others facts, are concerned, that cannot be considered as ground for denial of bail to the petitioner. In the considered opinion of this Court, the pre trial incarceration of the petitioner is not required. Accordingly, the present petition is allowed and the order dated 25.04.2025, granting interim bail to the petitioner, is made absolute, subject to compliance of usual terms and conditions requisite for grant of anticipatory bail.

23.05.2025

Jyoti-IV

(MANISHA BATRA)**JUDGE**

Whether speaking/reasoned:	Yes/No.
Whether reportable :	Yes/No