

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

202

CRM-M-24208-2025

Date of decision: 2nd June, 2025

Satinder Pal Singh

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE MANISHA BATRA

Present: Mr. Dinesh Nagar, Advocate for the petitioner.

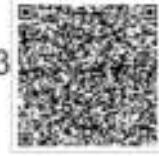
Ms. Navreet Kaur Barnala, Assistant Advocate General, Punjab.

Mr. Gurnoor Singh Sethi, Advocate for the complainant.

MANISHA BATRA, J (ORAL):-

The present petition has been filed under Section 482 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (for short 'BNSS') by the petitioner seeking grant of anticipatory bail in case bearing FIR No. 40 dated 29.03.2025 registered under Section 420 of IPC at Police Station Sadar Nawanshahr, District SBS Nagar.

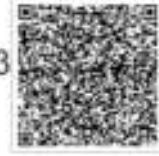
2. The aforementioned FIR was registered on the basis of a complaint lodged by the complainant Raghubir Singh, alleging therein that he had been duped of an amount of Rs. 23,50,000/- by the petitioner on the pretext of sending his son to USA. After registration of FIR, investigation proceedings have been initiated and are underway. Apprehending his arrest, the petitioner had moved an application for grant of pre-arrest bail, which



has been dismissed by the Court of Additional Sessions Judge, SBS Nagar, vide order dated 15.04.2025.

3. It is argued by learned counsel for the petitioner that he has been falsely implicated in this case. There is unexplained delay in reporting the matter to the police. The complainant has concocted a false story qua sending his son abroad on being induced by the petitioner. Infact, the petitioner had taken loan of a sum of Rs. 3,50,000/- from the complainant in October, 2023. He had agreed to pay interest at the rate of 2.5% per month. Three blank signed cheques had been taken by the complainant by way of security. The borrowed amount had been returned but the security cheques were not given back by the complainant and now he has implicated him in this case. It is submitted that he is ready to join the investigation. His custodial interrogation is not required. No recovery is to be effected from him. With these broad submissions, it is urged that the petition deserves to be allowed.

4. Status report has been filed. It is argued by learned Assistant Advocate General, Punjab, assisted by learned counsel for the complainant that there are serious allegations against the petitioner, who in connivance with co-accused Harbans Singh had induced the complainant to give a sum of Rs. 33,00,000/- to him, on the pretext of sending his son to USA. An amount of Rs. 9,00,000/- has been returned to the complainant. The cheques given by the petitioner towards the return of the remaining amount have been dishonoured. The petitioner since the very beginning was having dishonest intention to deceive the complainant. The complainant had given



the aforementioned amount of money to the petitioner by way of cash withdrawal from his bank account, by taking loan, by mortgaging his land as well as by sale of his land and documentary proof qua the same have been given to the investigating agency. For conducting thorough and proper investigation in the matter, custodial interrogation of the petitioner is must. No extraordinary and exceptional circumstance for grant of pre-arrest bail is made out. It is, accordingly, stressed that the petition is liable to be dismissed.

5. Rival contentions raised by both the parties have been considered.

6. The petitioner along with the co-accused is alleged to have induced the complainant to part with a huge amount of money on the pretext of sending his son abroad. As per the prosecution version, he did not send the son of the complainant abroad. He returned an amount of Rs. 9,00,000/- to the complainant but the cheques qua return of remaining amount have been dishonored. There are specific allegations against the petitioner. For conducting deeper probe and to elicit information about the manner in which the crime was committed, the custodial interrogation of the petitioner is must. It is also well settled that the Court must be circumspect while exercising such power for grant of anticipatory bail and it should not be granted as a matter of rule and has to be granted only when the Court is convinced that exceptional circumstances exist to resort to that extraordinary remedy. In the present case, no such exceptional circumstances warranting exercise of the powers for grant of anticipatory bail by this Court



are existing. As such, I am of the considered opinion that the petition does not deserve to be allowed. Accordingly, the same is dismissed.

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 dismissed, pending application, if any, is rendered infructuous.

[MANISHA BATRA]
JUDGE

2nd June, 2025
Parveen Sharma

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| 1. Whether speaking/ reasoned | : | Yes / No |
| 2. Whether reportable | : | Yes / No |