



251

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

CRM-M-28670-2025

Date of Decision:28.05.2025

VINOD KUMAR

...PETITIONER

VS.

STATE OF PUNJAB

...RESPONDENT

Coram : Hon'ble Mr. Justice N.S.Shekhawat

Present : Mr. Rahul Vohra, Advocate &
Ms. Sonali Aggarwal, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. M.S. Bajwa, DAG, Punjab.

N.S.Shekhawat J. (Oral)

1. The petitioner has filed the present petition under Section 483 of BNSS, 2023 with a prayer to grant regular bail to him in case FIR No.150 dated 02.06.2022, registered under Sections 406 & 420 IPC, 1860, Police Station Division 5, Police Commissionerate, Ludhiana.

2. The FIR in the present case was registered on the basis of the statement made by Ravi Shankar Dhawan and the same has been reproduced below:-

*“To the Commissioner of Police Ludhiana (Punjab)
SUBJECT- To seek remedy and help about a recent stamp duty fraud done with me by a Ludhiana stamp paper vendor Respected Ma'am, I Ravi Shankar Dhawan (Proprietor of Matrica Documents Centre, Delhi) am indulged into procuring stamp papers for my client (Desk Nine Pvt. Ltd Bangalore) from different*



states. I often order these papers from local Govt. Registered Stamp Vendors and ask them to send it to my client in Bangalore through courier. I am into this service providing for more than 5 years now. However in one similar unfortunate event recently, I came into contact With a Stamp Paper Vendor named Vinod Kumar S/o Ram Asra, his son, Sahil and one person working for them named Sanjay, office situated at Chacha Photostat Chamber No 49 New Court Complex Near SDM Office West Ludhiana, Punjab 141001. Another possible home address B-1/264, New KundanPuri, Civil Lines, Ludhiana Upon meeting held with him at his office in July 2021 it was decided that he will provide me the stamp papers and he provided some numbers of stamp papers in the beginning. Further he had to send 3 consignments recently of total worth of Rs.13,99,400/- (Thirteen Lakh Ninety Nine Thousand and Four Hundred only) for which payments were directly made into SBI current bank account provided by him. He sent one consignment on 5th August 2021 which got delivered to our client in Bangalore on 7th August 2021. Upon inspection they found that there were 3-4 packets in one big package and each packet had only one blank stamp paper at the front and the end, between them were just plain blank papers. When my client Desk Nine Pvt. Ltd told me about this fact through pictures and videos, I was in utter shock and got to know of the fraud. I didn't ask the vendor Mr. Vinod Kumar about it because I didn't want him to run away as there are 2 more consignments in the run and he is in bait of getting more money for other orders. Out of other 2 consignments one is in transit from Ludhiana to Bangalore and other one is in Ludhiana itself at Courier Service Provider, seal packed by Mr. Vinod and his team. It is my only opportunity to find out his fraud by opening the consignments in transit and one in Ludhiana itself here under proper supervision. It is therefore important to hold Mr. Vinod Kumar to stop him from running away with this big fraud and also catch him red handed. Being surrounded by



immense mental pressure, I urge you to show me a path and provide me justice in best and swiftest way Yours faithfully Ravi Shankar Dhawan prop of M/S Matrica Centre 4-A, Pocket A-1, Mayur Vihar Phase 3, Delhi-110093.”

3. Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that the complainant had approached the petitioner for purchasing 3 consignments of stamp papers worth Rs.13,99,400/- and out of the same, one consignment had already been received by the client of the complainant, whereas two other consignments were on its way. In fact the petitioner had already dispatched all the consignments, for which he had taken the consideration from the complainant. He further contends that in the present case, the petitioner was arrested on 27.01.2025 and is in custody for the last more than four months. Even the challan has been presented against him on 18.02.2025 and even during the course of investigation, no incriminating evidence could be collected against him. He further contends that the prosecution has placed reliance on 11 witnesses but only one witness has been partly examined so far. Thus, the trial may take considerable time to conclude the trial and further custody of the petitioner will not serve any useful purpose.

4. On the other hand, learned State counsel has vehemently opposed the submissions made by learned counsel for the petitioner on the ground that serious allegations have been levelled against the present petitioner and he does not deserve the concession of bail by this Court.

5. I have heard the learned counsel for the parties and perused the record carefully.



6. In the present case, the petitioner is stated to be in custody for the last more than 04 months and challan has already been presented against him. Even the trial is not likely to conclude in near future. Thus, the further custody of the petitioner will not serve any useful purpose.

7. Without commenting on the merits of the case, the present petition is allowed and the petitioner is ordered to be released on bail subject to his furnishing bail bonds/surety bonds to the satisfaction of the trial Court/Duty Magistrate/Chief Judicial Magistrate, concerned.

28.05.2025
vipin

(N.S. SHEKHAWAT)
JUDGE

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