



IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA  
AT CHANDIGARH

202

CRM-M-31962-2024

Date of decision: April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Sham Lal

.....Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

.....Respondents

**CORAM: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE MANJARI NEHRU KAUL**

Present: Mr. Bipan Ghai, Senior Advocate  
with Mr. Nikhil Ghai, Mr. Nikhil Thamman  
and Ms. Malini Singh, Advocates  
for the petitioner.

Mr. Amit Rana, Senior Deputy Advocate General, Punjab.

**MANJARI NEHRU KAUL, J. (ORAL)**

The petitioner is seeking the concession of anticipatory bail in FIR No.14 dated 04.06.2024 under Sections 7, 7-A of The Prevention of Corruption Act read with Section 120-B of the IPC, registered at Police Station Vigilance Bureau, District Bathinda.

2. On 07.01.2025, the petitioner had been granted interim anticipatory bail with direction to join investigation and the relevant part of the said order reads as under:-

*“Learned senior counsel for the petitioner, inter alia, contends that although the petitioner has been named in the FIR in question, however, a perusal of the FIR annexed as Annexure P-1 reveals that there is no specific role attributed to the petitioner much less of demanding or accepting bribe from the complainant; there is no audio/video recording also of the petitioner in the said regard.*

*Learned State counsel while opposing the prayer*

*and submissions has not disputed the submissions made by the counsel opposite qua there being no documentary evidence in the shape of either audio or video recording against the petitioner demanding or accepting bribe from the complainant.”*

3. Learned senior counsel for the petitioner submits that in compliance of order dated 07.01.2025, the petitioner has joined investigation and cooperated with the investigating agency.

4. Learned State counsel, on instructions, does not dispute the factum of the petitioner having joined investigation and cooperated with the investigating agency. He, on further instructions, submits that the petitioner is not required for further investigation much less for his custodial interrogation.

5. In view of the above, the petition is allowed and interim order dated 07.01.2025, is made absolute subject to the conditions laid down in Section 438(2) Cr.P.C./482(2) BNSS.

**April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

*Puneet*

**(MANJARI NEHRU KAUL)  
JUDGE**

Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No

Whether reportable : Yes/No