



CRM-M-43913-2025(O&M)

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

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CRM-M-43913-2025(O&M)

Date of decision: 12th August, 2025

Manojj K Katyal

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Haryana

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE MANISHA BATRA

Present: Mr. Anoop Verma, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Apoorv Garg, Addl. A.G., Haryana.

MANISHA BATRA, J (ORAL):-**CRM-31494-2025**

This application has been filed by the applicant for exemption from filing certified copies of Annexures P-1 and P-2.

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 482 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (for short 'BNSS') by the petitioner seeking grant of anticipatory bail in case bearing FIR No. 497 dated 27.12.2024 registered under Sections 420 and 120-B of IPC (Sections 467, 468 and 471 of IPC added later on) at Police Station DLF, District Gurugram, Haryana.

2. The aforementioned FIR was registered on the basis of a



complaint jointly made by the complainants Rahul Gupta along with other victims, namely Ambika Bisla, Arun Kumar, Ram Ranjan Sharma, Subi Sethi and Mohnish Madaan alleging that the petitioner and his wife, Deepika Katyal were directors of a group of companies under the names Disha Consultancies and Riann Enterprises. While representing themselves as authorized travel agents, they enticed and allured the victims into purchasing international flight tickets by offering attractive prices and high-quality customer services. It is alleged that they got deposited an amount of Rs. 48,90,895/- from the complainants but neither provided the air tickets nor refunded the abovesaid amount. By alleging that with dishonest intention to cause wrongful loss to the victims, the petitioner and his wife had induced them to deposit huge amount of money, they prayed for taking action in the matter. On registration of FIR, investigation proceedings have been initiated and are underway. Apprehending his arrest, the petitioner moved an application for grant of pre-arrest bail before the learned Additional Sessions Judge, Gurugram, which was dismissed vide order dated 30.07.2025.

3. It is argued by learned counsel for the petitioner that he has been falsely implicated in this case. The victims were his long standing customers with whom he had numerous professional interactions for the purpose of booking flight tickets. A civil dispute has arisen between them with regard to the refund claims and cancellation relating deductions which has been given a criminal colour. The ingredients for commission of offences of cheating or forgery are not at all attracted. The petitioner is ready to join the investigation. His custodial interrogation is not required. It is, therefore, urged that the petition deserves to be allowed.



4. Notice of motion.

5. Learned State counsel has advance notice of the petition and is ready to argue the matter. It is submitted by him that there are serious and specific allegations against the petitioner who had duped the victims of huge amount of money on the pretext of offering air tickets on attractive prices and with promise of good service but did not get the same booked and also did not return their money. He had also handed over five cheques to two of the victims but even those cheques have also been dishonored. Forged tickets were prepared and screenshots of the same were sent to the victims. The tickets were initially issued but were subsequently blocked and the portion where they were shown to be blocked was edited while sending screenshots just to cheat the victims. It is argued that no exceptional or extraordinary circumstance for grant of pre-arrest bail is made out in favour of the petitioner. Therefore, it is urged that the petition does not deserve to be allowed.

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

7. The petitioner who is admittedly running a travel agency is alleged to have cheated the victims who were his customers by offering reasonable prices for air tickets but after receiving an amount of Rs. 48,90,895/- from them, he did not issue any tickets/blocked the tickets so issued and sent screenshots by editing and creating false documents. The allegations against him are serious. For conducting thorough and deeper probe into the matter, custodial interrogation of the petitioner is must. The powers under Section 482 of BNSS are to be exercised in extraordinary and



sparing circumstances. More so, custodial interrogation of a suspected person is qualitatively more elicitation oriented than questioning a suspect who is well ensconced with a favourable order under Section 482 of BNSS. Many useful information can be disinterred during custodial interrogation. It has also to be seen that an order of anticipatory bail does not operate as an inroad in the normal legal procedure of criminal cases by the trial Court. The case is at its nascent stage. The Court has also to see that an order of anticipatory bail should not operate as inroad in the normal legal procedure of criminal cases by the trial Court. 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.

8. It is, however, clarified that the observations made hereinabove shall not be construed as an expression of opinion on the merits of the case.

9. Since the main petition has been dismissed, pending application, if any, is rendered infructuous.

[MANISHA BATRA]
JUDGE

12th August, 2025

Parveen Sharma

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