



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

CRM-M-46435-2025
Date of decision: 25.09.2025

SHUBHRA ACHARIYA

...Petitioner

VERSUS

STATE OF PUNJAB

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE YASHVIR SINGH RATHOR

Present: Mr. Sandeep Sharma, Advocate
 for the petitioner.

Mr. Rahul Jindal, AAG, Punjab.

YASHVIR SINGH RATHOR, J. (Oral)

1. Prayer in the present petition under Section 483 of BNSS, 2023 is for grant of regular bail to the petitioner in case having FIR No.78 dated 29.06.2024 registered under Sections 406, 420 of IPC at Police Station Sadar Nawanashar, District SBS Nagar, Punjab..

2. In compliance of order dated 28.08.2025, status report by way of an affidavit of Raj Kumar, PPS, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Sub-Division Nawanshahr, District Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar, filed on behalf of the State is taken on record.

3. The present case was registered on the basis of statement given to the police by Sartaj Singh with the allegations that petitioner-Shubhra Achariya has cheated him of a sum of Rs.18,50,000/- with a promise to send him abroad but neither he was sent abroad nor amount has been returned. Thereafter, petitioner was arrested on 18.02.2025 and



after completion of usual investigation, final report was presented against the accused for trial.

4. I have heard learned counsel for the petitioner and learned State counsel, who has opposed the bail.

5. Admittedly, petitioner is in custody since 18.02.2025. Final report has already been presented after completion of investigation. Out of total 15 witnesses cited by the prosecution, only 5 witnesses have been examined till date. All the offences are Magisterial trial and trial is likely to take sufficiently long time to conclude. It is well settled that bail is the rule and jail is an exception and bail should not be denied as a punitive measure or a form of punishment before conviction and no useful purpose will, thus, be served by detaining the petitioner in custody anymore

6. Having regard to the aforesaid factual position, but without commenting anything on the merits of the case, the bail application is allowed and petitioner is ordered to be released on bail on his furnishing bail bonds and surety bonds to the satisfaction of learned Trial Court/Duty Magistrate concerned, on usual terms and conditions.

7. Pending misc. application(s), if any, shall also stand disposed of.

25.09.2025
Priyanka Thakur

(YASHVIR SINGH RATHOR)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned :	Yes	No
Whether Reportable :	Yes	No