



CRM-M No. 54356-2024

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

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CRM-M No. 54356-2024 (O&M)

Date of Decision: 07.03.2025

Sarabjeet Ukhala

.....Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

.....Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MAHABIR SINGH SINDHU**Present:** Mr. Sherry K. Singla, Advocate for the petitioner.

Ms. Manjot Kaur, AAG, Punjab assisted by
ASI Balwinder Singh.

MAHABIR SINGH SINDHU, J.

Present petition has been filed, under Section 483 of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (for short 'BNSS') for grant of bail pending trial to the petitioner in FIR No.160 dated 04.08.2024, registered under Sections 192, 196, 299 and 61 of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (for short 'BNS'), at Police Station Kotwali, District Patiala.

2. Allegations are that petitioner in criminal conspiracy with co-accused circulated posts on social media casting aspersions on Hindu religion and Deities.

3. Reply by way of affidavit dated 05.02.2025 of Mr. Satnam Singh, PPS, Deputy Superintendent of Police, City-1, District Patiala on behalf of respondent has been filed and the same is taken on record. Copy supplied to the other side.

Registry to tag the same at appropriate place.

4. Contends that petitioner is in custody since 05.08.2024; final report under Section 193 of BNSS has already been presented on 01.10.2024; charges are yet to be considered; thus, conclusion of trial will



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take sufficient long time.

5. *Per contra*, learned State counsel vehemently opposed the prayer while submitting that allegations against the petitioner are serious in nature; hence, he does not deserve the concession of bail pending trial.

6. Heard both sides and perused the paper-book.

7. Concededly, petitioner is in custody since 05.08.2024; report under Section 193 of the BNSS has already been presented on 01.10.2024 and charges are yet to be considered. As the conclusion of trial may take sufficient long time; therefore, further incarceration of the petitioner would not serve any purpose.

8. Consequently, present petition is allowed; petitioner shall be admitted to bail on furnishing bail/surety bonds to the satisfaction of learned trial Court/Chief Judicial Magistrate/Duty Magistrate concerned.

9. Petitioner shall appear on each & every date of hearing and to fully co-operate with the learned trial Court without seeking any unnecessary adjournment(s).

10. The above observations be not construed as an expression of opinion on the merits of the case, in any manner.

11. It is clarified that in case there is recurrence or any misuse of concession of bail on the part of the petitioner, State would be at liberty to move an appropriate application for recalling of this order.

Pending application(s), if any, shall also stand disposed off.

07.03.2025

Rajeev (rvs)

(MAHABIR SINGH SINDHU)

JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned

Yes/No

Whether reportable

Yes/No