



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

CRM-M-53535-2025

Date of decision: 22.09.2025

NARINDER SINGH

....Petitioner

Versus

STATE OF PUNJAB AND ORS.

....Respondents

CORAM:- HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE RUPINDERJIT CHAHAL

Present:- Mr. Amarpreet Singh Bathindewala, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Ravinder Singh, DAG Punjab.

.....

RUPINDERJIT CHAHAL, J. (ORAL)

1. The present petition has been filed under Section 528 BNSS, 2023 to investigate and take action on application dated 28.07.2025 (Annexure P-1) and for issuance of directions to respondent No.2 to conduct fair and impartial investigation on the application (Annexure P-1).

2. Learned counsel for the petitioner inter alia contends that the petitioner's son namely Akash went to college on 04.01.2025 and never returned home. He contends that the petitioner has searched for his son at all known places but is unable to locate him. He further contends that in July, 2025 the petitioner has come to know that his son has been forcibly taken by respondents No.3 and 4 to their village Gobindpura in District Bathinda and the petitioner fearing for his life has not been able to visit the said village. It is thus prayed to issue an appropriate direction to the respondent No.2 to fairly investigate the matter and take action on the same.



3. Having heard learned counsel for the petitioner and after perusing the record of the case with his able assistance, this Court finds no force in the arguments advanced on behalf of the petitioner.

4. A two Judge Bench of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in ***Sakiri Vasu Vs. State of U.P. and others, (2008) 2 SCC 409*** has held that the Magistrate has been bestowed with all necessary powers to ensure proper investigation under Section 156(3) Cr.P.C. Discouraging the practice of approaching the High Court for redressal of grievances like non-registration of FIR or improper investigation, Justice Markandey Katju made the following observations:

“27. As we have already observed above, the Magistrate has very wide powers to direct registration of an FIR and to ensure a proper investigation, and for this purpose he can monitor the investigation to ensure that the investigation is done properly (though he cannot investigate himself). The High Court should discourage the practice of filing a writ petition or petition under Section 482 Criminal Procedure Code simply because a person has a grievance that his FIR has not been registered by the police, or after being registered, proper investigation has not been done by the police. For this grievance, the remedy lies under Sections 36 and 154(3) before the concerned police officers, and if that is of no avail, under Section 156(3) Criminal Procedure Code before the Magistrate or by filing a criminal complaint under Section 200 Criminal Procedure Code and not by filing a writ petition or a petition under Section 482 Criminal Procedure Code.

28. It is true that alternative remedy is not an absolute bar to a writ petition, but it is equally well settled that if there is an alternative remedy the High Court should not ordinarily interfere.”

.....emphasis supplied

5. This ratio was reiterated in the judgments rendered by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in ***Sudhir Bhaskarrao Tambe Vs. Hemant Yashwant Dhange and others, (2016) 6 SCC 277, M. Subramaniam and another Vs. S. Janaki and another, (2020) 16 SCC 728.***

6. The High Courts, while exercising its inherent powers under Section 482 Cr.P.C. (now under Section 528 of B.N.S.S., 2023), can issue directions for prompt and proper investigation, however, it would be out of bounds to instruct the investigation to be completed in a certain time frame, in alignment with the opinion expressed by it. The Courts must be conscious of its influence and not exercise the same in an unwarranted fashion as it may prejudice the conclusion of the investigating agency, straying further away from achieving the overarching goal of justice.

7. Further, even though the jurisdictional Magistrate is well equipped to deal with such type of matters, learned counsel for the petitioner has not able to provide a satisfactory response regarding approaching this Court directly instead of the concerned jurisdictional Court by filing an appropriate application under Section 156(3) Cr.P.C.(now Section 175(3) of BNSS, 2023).

8. In view of the facts and circumstances of the case, this Court is not inclined to issue any such direction. Accordingly, present petition is dismissed being bereft of any merit.

22.09.2025
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(RUPINDERJIT CHAHAL)
JUDGE

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| i) | Whether speaking/reasoned? | Yes/No |
| ii) | Whether reportable? | Yes/No |