



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

202/4

CRM-M-60526-2025

Date of Decision: 11.12.2025

BHARAT KUMAR**...Petitioner(s)****Versus****STATE OF HARYANA****...Respondent(s)****CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE TRIBHUVAN DAHIYA**

Present:- Mr. Dhruv Gupta, Advocate and
Ms. Titiksha, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Aakash Singla, Additional Advocate General, Haryana and
Mr. Parveen Mehta, Additional Advocate General, Haryana.

TRIBHUVAN DAHIYA, J. (Oral)

The instant petition has been filed under Section 483 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, seeking regular bail to the petitioner in case FIR No.116 dated 07.03.2023, registered under Sections 420, 467, 468, 471, 120-B of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), 1860 (Section 409 IPC and 13(1) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 added later on), at Police Station Sector 7, Panchkula.

2. The translated version of the FIR in question has been placed on record as Annexure P-1, relevant extract whereof is as under:

...That the present complaint is being sent by the undersigned in this official capacity as per directions of competent authority HSVP Panchkula, Haryana. The brief facts of the complaint are as under: 1. It has come to the notice of this office (HSVP) from some reliable sources that certain undue payments were released during 2015 to 2019 from the Bank



account of HSVP maintained in Punjab National Bank. Manimajra, Chandigarh bank account No. 1183002100026639. 2. Accordingly the matter was enquired in the cash branch of CCF, HSVP, office and they intimated that no such bank account of HSVP was ever opened as per their knowledge. The data base of HSVP maintained by the IT wing was also checked and it was also found that no such bank account was found in the bank master of HSVP data base. 3. Further the matter enquired from Punjab National Bank, SCO No. 809, NAC, Manimajra, Chandigarh (UT) and from there it came to the notice that the above said account No. 1183002100026639 was opened in their branch on dated 30.05.2015. The account was opened in the name of Accounts Officer, HUDA (HQ), Panchkula. Further details about the authority who have opened the bank account and its mode of operation were asked from the bank branch. In this regard Chief Manager, Punjab National Bank, Branch Manimajra vide letter dated 08.02.2023 provided the details of the bank transaction took place in the aforesaid bank account with others details. The statement of the above said bank account as received from the bank is enclosed herewith for further necessary action. 4. The bank has further intimated that transactions in the above bank account have been carried out as per the instruction received from the email of HSPV. Further, the mobile no. linked with the above bank account was 9877248065 which belong to Sh. Sunil Bansal the then Accounts Officer (Cash)/Sr. Accounts Officer (Now retired) on 28.02.2019. The aforesaid bank account has also been reported as closed on 27.02.2019. 5. It has been found that approximately a sum of Rs.72,13,40,500/- have been released in favour of some particular parties repeatedly, the detail of beneficiaries is enclosed herewith. It will be pertinent to mention here that no such record of the payments released from the above bank account in HSVP record. The emails instructions on the basis of which the bank has carried out the transaction is also not



traceable in the HSVP. The record of emails in this regard, obtained from Bank is also enclosed herewith. It is further added that these transactions have also not accounted for in the books of accounts, of HSVP. 6. A detailed investigation is required to be made in the interest of justice from every aspect to find out the persons responsible for this fraud/corruption, embezzlement etc, as huge amount of public involved in this fraud and the persons responsible for this Act deserve to be punished and there may be apprehension that the persons responsible for this Act might have committed more fraud by means of other sources in same way.

3. Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that the petitioner is neither named in the FIR, nor has any specific role/allegation been attributed to him so far as the offence of cheating and committing fraud with the complainant/HSVP is concerned. And he is not a beneficiary of the transaction in any manner. There is only one credit entry of ₹41,43,200 in his bank account which was for one Navneet Giri. He is in custody since 14.07.2025, challan/chartersheet has already been presented before the trial Court *qua* him on 30.09.2025, and has no criminal antecedents. Trial of the case will take a long time and no useful purpose will be served by keeping him in the custody any longer.

4. Learned State counsel, on the contrary, contends that statement of the petitioner's bank account placed on record with the status report shows that the amount credited to his account has been misappropriated by him, as there have been cash withdrawals of about ₹28,00,000. His complicity in the larger conspiracy therefore stands established. Besides, he had no business transactions with the HSVP on any occasion, nor had his land ever been acquired for any HSVP project. Accordingly, there was no occasion for him to receive the amount from it. He further submits that the investigation to

unearth the entire fraud is still being carried out, and the release of the petitioner at this stage will hamper further course of investigation. He is likely to abscond and influence the witnesses, and manipulate the record.

5. Submissions made by learned counsel for the parties have been considered.

6. The fact of petitioner being beneficiary of the misappropriated amount of public money has *prima facie* been established by the admitted credit of more than ₹41,00,000 to his account. Large part of this money has been withdrawn by him in cash as well. The investigation to uncover the entire conspiracy to defraud the HSVP and to find out where has the embezzled public money being parked is still on. The beneficiaries are being identified and the money trail is being pursued. The investigating agency has expressed apprehension that his release at this stage will influence further course of investigation and he is a flight risk, which cannot be discounted. Additionally, it is well settled that economic offences constitute a class apart, and for grant of bail in such cases the Court has to take into account deep-rooted conspiracies to cause huge loss to public exchequer, and the larger public interest. Considering the totality of facts and circumstances of the case, this Court is not inclined to grant regular bail to the petitioner at this stage.

7. Accordingly, the petition stands dismissed.

(TRIBHUVAN DAHIYA)
JUDGE

11.12.2025
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<i>Whether speaking/reasoned</i>	<i>Yes/No</i>
<i>Whether reportable</i>	<i>Yes/No</i>