

2025:PHHC:176774



107

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT
CHANDIGARH

CRM-M-62918-2025

Lokas Masih

....Petitioner

versus

State of Punjab and another

....Respondents

Date of decision: December 22, 2025

Date of Uploading: December 22, 2025

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUMEET GOEL

Present: Mr. Stephen Masih Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Adhiraj Singh Thind, AAG Punjab.

SUMEET GOEL, J. (ORAL)

Present petition has been filed under Section 482 of the
Bhartiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (for short 'BNSS') for grant of
concession of anticipatory bail to the petitioner in case FIR No.317 dated
16.12.2024, under Section 420 of IPC, registered at Police Station Gharinda,
Amritsar, District Amritsar.

2. On 10.11.2025, the following order was passed:

*“Apprehending his arrest in FIR No.317 dated 16.12.2024
registered for offences punishable under Section 420 of IPC, at Police
Station Gharinda, District Amritsar; the petitioner has preferred this
petition under Section 482 of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023
seeking pre-arrest bail.*

*Counsel for the petitioner, inter alia, contends that the petitioner is
a man aged 46 years with no antecedents, the amount allegedly given to
the petitioner was from the year 2018 to 2021 whereas the FIR in question
was registered in the year 2024 & the petitioner is willing to join
investigation and cooperate therein.*

Notice of motion.

*On the strength of advance notice; Mr. Amit Kumar Goyal, Addl.
AG, Punjab has entered appearance on behalf of the respondent-State of
Punjab.*

Adjourned to 10.12.2025.

The petitioner is directed to appear before the Investigating Officer on 15.11.2025 at 11:00 A.M. in concerned Police Station and join investigation. In the event of arrest, the petitioner shall be released on interim bail subject to his furnishing personal/surety bond(s) to the satisfaction of the Arresting Officer/Investigating Officer. As and when further called by Investigating Officer, the petitioner shall join the investigation. He shall abide by the condition(s) enumerated under Section 482(2) of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023.”

3. Office note indicates that ordinary service has been received with the report that respondent No.2 is residing abroad for the last 02 years.

4. Learned State counsel (on instructions from ASI Jaswinder Singh) has stated that pursuant to the order dated 28.10.2025, the petitioner has indeed investigation but his custodial interrogation is required for effecting money in question.

5. Having heard learned counsel for the parties and upon perusal of the record; especially in view of the factum of the petitioner having joined investigation, but his custodial interrogation is being sought for by the State only for effecting money in question; the interim order dated 10.11.2025 passed by this Court is made absolute, subject to the conditions as enumerated under Section 482(2) of BNSS, 2023.

6. Petition stands allowed, accordingly.

7. This order should not be treated as “blanket” order. It will not be read granting petitioner indefinite protection from arrest. It shall be confined to the FIR mentioned *ibid* and will not operate in respect of any other incident that involves commission of an offence.

8. Liberty is reserved in favour of State/complainant to move for cancellation/recall of this order in case the petitioner violates any condition stipulated under Section 482(2) of BNSS, 2023 or upon showing any other sufficient cause.

9. Needless to say that anything observed herein above shall not

be construed to be an opinion on the merits of the case.
10. Pending application(s), if any, shall also stand disposed of.

(SUMEET GOEL)
JUDGE

December 22, 2025
mahavir

Whether speaking/reasoned: Yes/No

Whether reportable: Yes/No