

2026:PHHC:054849



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**IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT
CHANDIGARH****CRM-M-3743-2026**

Rajpreet Singh alias Maan Singh

....Petitioner

versus

State of Punjab

....Respondent

Date of Decision: April 09, 2026

Date of Uploading: April 09, 2026

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUMEET GOEL**Present:** Ms. Chhavi Budhiraja, Advocate and
Mr. Ravinder Singh Gill, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Jaypreet Singh, DAG 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.0048 dated
01.05.2025, under Sections 331(4), 305 of the BNS, 2023 (Section 317(2) of
the BNS added later on), registered at Police Station Kotbhai, District Shri
Muktsar Sahib.

2. On 23.01.2026, the following order was passed:

*“This is a petition for anticipatory bail filed under Section 482 of
the Bhartiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 in case FIR No.0048 dated
01.05.2025 under Sections 331(4), 305 of BNS, 2023 (Section 317(2) of
BNS, 2023 added later on) registered at Police Station Kotbhai, District
Sri Muktsar Sahib.*

*The case of the prosecution is that the petitioner along with co-
accused committed theft of Rs. 2,50,000/- from the house of the
complainant and 50 wheat bags from the houses of Gurpreet Singh ,*

Jagroop Singh and also committed theft of eatable articles from Karan Variety Store.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that a false FIR has been registered against the petitioner and that he has not committed any offence as alleged therein. It is further submitted that nothing is to be recovered from the petitioner. The petitioner has been named only on the basis of suspicion, and there is an unexplained delay of 12 days in lodging the FIR. Learned counsel further submits that the petitioner is ready and willing to join the investigation and cooperate with the investigating agency.

Notice of motion for 23.03.2026.

On the asking of the Court, Mr. Rishabh Singla, AAG, Punjab accepts notice on behalf of the State.

In the meantime, the petitioner is directed to appear before the SHO/Investigating Officer to join investigation as and when required and in the event of his arrest, he shall be released on interim bail on his furnishing bail bonds to the satisfaction of SHO/Investigating Agency, subject to the following conditions as envisaged under Section 482(2) of the BNSS [erstwhile Section 438(2) Cr.P.C.]:-

- i) that the petitioner shall make himself available for interrogation by a police officer as and when required;*
- ii) that the petitioner shall not, directly or indirectly, make any inducement, threat or promise to any person acquainted with the facts of the case so as to dissuade him/her from disclosing such facts to the Court or to any police officer;*
- iii) that the petitioner shall not leave India without the prior permission of the Court;*
- iv) such other condition as may be imposed under sub-section (3) of Section 480, as if the bail were granted under that section.”*

3. Status report by way of an affidavit dated 21.03.2026 has been filed, in the Court today, which is taken on record. Raising submissions in tandem with the said status report, learned State counsel (on instructions) has stated that pursuant to the order dated 23.01.2026, the petitioner has joined investigation, but his custodial interrogation is required for effecting recovery of stolen wheat bag(s)/ money.

4. 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 and his custodial interrogation being sought only for effecting recovery of wheat bag(s)/ money, the interim order dated 23.01.2026 passed by this Court is made absolute, subject to the conditions as enumerated under Section 482(2) of BNSS, 2023.

5. Petition stands allowed, accordingly.

6. 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.
7. 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.
8. Needless to say that anything observed herein above shall not be construed to be an opinion on the merits of the case.
9. Pending application(s), if any, shall also stand disposed of.

(SUMEET GOEL)
JUDGE

April 09, 2026

mahavir

Whether speaking/reasoned: Yes/No

Whether reportable: Yes/No