



IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH.

209 CRM-M-4974-2026 (O&M).
Date of Decision: 04.05.2026.

Mintu SinghPetitioner.
State of PunjabRespondent.
VERSUS

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY VASHISTH

Present: Mr. Naveen Sharma, Advocate for the petitioner.
Mr. Vinay Malhotra, Deputy Advocate General, Punjab.

SANJAY VASHISTH, J. (Oral)

1. Prayer in this petition, filed under Section 482 of the BNSS, 2023 (earlier Section 438 Cr.P.C.), is for grant of anticipatory bail to the petitioner, who has been booked in a criminal case arising out of First Information Report, as detailed hereunder:-

Name of Petitioner (s)	FIR No.	Date	Section(s)	Police Station	District
Mintu Singh	520	16.11.2025	21 of NDPS Act (Section 29 NDPS Act added later on)	City	Barnala

2. On 29.01.2026, following order was passed:-

- “1. xxx
2. As per the prosecution, on 16.11.2025, at approximately 10:45 p.m., members of the police team noticed the accused Lovepreet Singh alias Laadi and Sarbo sitting on the ground

beside some bushes on the right side, rolling a polythene envelope. Upon seeing the police vehicle, they threw the polythene envelope and stood up. When the polythene bag thrown by the accused was retrieved and weighed, it was found to contain 270 grams of a light brown-colored intoxicant substance. Following the registration of the FIR and subsequent arrest, the name of the present petitioner was disclosed as the supplier of the intoxicant substance, and the petitioner was thereafter implicated as an accused in the case.

3. Learned counsel for the petitioner argues that the petitioner has been falsely implicated, having no connection with the accused Lovepreet and Sarbo or with the contraband recovered from their possession. Counsel further contends that, except for the disclosure statement, there is no substantive evidence linking the petitioner to the recovered contraband or to the other co-accused. It is also submitted that, to date, the prosecution has not conclusively established whether the recovered substance is indeed a banned narcotic or some other material. Therefore, it cannot be assumed that the 270 grams of substance recovered from the co-accused falls under the purview of the NDPS Act.

Moreover, having no connection with the said recovery, the petitioner is ready and willing to cooperate with the investigation if he is protected from arrest. In view of the above, learned counsel prays for the grant of anticipatory bail to the petitioner.

4. Notice of motion.

On advance notice, Mr. Neeraj Madaan, Sr. DAG, Punjab puts in appearance on behalf of the respondent – State. He seeks some time to file reply.

5. Adjourned to 04.05.2026.

6. In the meanwhile, petitioner is directed to join the investigation as and when required to do so by the Investigating Agency. In the event of his arrest, petitioner shall be released on

interim bail, subject to his furnishing bail bonds to the satisfaction of the Arresting Officer. Petitioner shall also be abide by all the conditions laid down under Section 482(2) of BNSS, 2023 (earlier Section 438(2) Cr.P.C.).

7. Besides, it is directed that petitioner would hand over his passport to the Investigating Agency or to Court concerned, if he possesses. Otherwise, would submit an affidavit, disclosing the fact that he does not possess any passport. It is also directed that before leaving country any time during trial, petitioner would seek prior permission of the Court.”

3. Continuing his submissions, learned counsel for the petitioner contends that in compliance of the order dated 29.01.2026, passed by this Court, petitioner has joined the investigation, and has fully co-operated. Therefore, he prays for confirmation of the said interim anticipatory bail order.

4. Learned State counsel on instructions from ASI Jaswinder Singh, confirms the said averment made by counsel for the petitioner of joining the investigation on 28.04.2026 by the petitioner, and submits that as of now, custodial interrogation of the petitioner is not required for the purpose of investigation.

5. Heard learned counsel for the parties.

6. Since, petitioner has already joined the investigation and custodial interrogation is no more required; ad-interim bail order dated 29.01.2026, passed by this Court is hereby made absolute. Accordingly, present petition is allowed.

However, petitioner shall continue to join the investigation as and when required to do so and abide by all the terms and conditions laid down under Section 482(2) of BNSS, 2023.

7. Regarding Passport, learned State counsel contends that affidavit
has been submitted in another FIR.
8. Accordingly, petition stands disposed of.

(SANJAY VASHISTH)
JUDGE

04.05.2026
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Whether speaking/ reasoned :

Whether Reportable :

Yes/ No

Yes/ No