

2026:PHHC:006723



**IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH
(204)**

**CRR-968-2022 (O&M)
Decided on: 19.01.2026**

DIRECTORATE OF ENFORCEMENT, CHANDIGARH

.....Petitioner

Versus

THE ASSOCIATED JOURNALS LIMITED AND OTHERS

.....Respondents

CORAM : HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE TRIBHUVAN DAHIYA

Present:- Mr.S.V.Raju, Additional Solicitor General of India
(through Video Conferencing) with
Mr. Zoheb Hossain, Senior Panel Counsel, Union of India
(through Video Conferencing) with
Mr. Shourya Mehra, Advocate
Ms. Arundhatti, Advocate and
Mr. Shobit Phutela, Advocate
for the petitioner/ED.

Mr. Sartej Singh Narula, Senior Advocate, with
Mr. Mayur Singla, Advocate, and
Dr. Amardeep Singh Sandhu, Advocate, for respondent no.1.

Mr. R.S. Cheema, Senior Advocate, with
Ms. Sumanjit Kaur, Advocate,
Mr. Siddharth Bhukkal, Advocate,
Mr. Satish Sharma, Advocate,
Mr. Prince Bharol, Advocate, and
Ms. Vibhuti Manchanda, Advocate.

and

Mr. Pardeep Singh Poonia, Senior Advocate, with
Mr. Pulkit Dhanda, Advocate,
Mr. Dharampal Saini, Advocate, for respondent no.3.

TRIBHUVAN DAHIYA, J. (Oral)

This petition has been filed seeking cancellation of order dated

06.11.2019, passed by learned Special Judge under PMLA (Haryana),

Panchkula, in Complaint case COMA/42/2019 dated 26.08.2019, registered

for offences under Sections 3 and 4 read with Sections 44, 45 and 70 of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (for short, 'the PMLA'), whereby the respondents/accused were granted bail as they had not been arrested during the course of investigation by invoking Section 19 of the PMLA, nor had they been produced in custody before the Court. The statutory complaint had been filed against the respondents without arresting them.

2. Learned Additional Solicitor General of India appearing for the petitioner fairly submits that in view of the law settled in *Tarsem Lal v. Directorate of Enforcement Jalandhar Zonal Office*, (2024) 7 SCC 61, the respondents' entitlement to bail in such circumstances cannot be disputed.

3. In view thereof, the petition stands dismissed.

4. Pending applications, if any, shall stand disposed of accordingly.

19.01.2026
mohit goyal

(TRIBHUVAN DAHIYA)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No
Whether Reportable : Yes/No