



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

225

CRM-M-6996-2026

Date of decision : 09.04.2026

Date of uploading : 09.04.2026

Vishal Alias Vicky Sodhi

.....Petitioner

Versus

State Of Haryana

.....Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUMEET GOEL

Present: Mr. Aman Pal, Senior Advocate with
Mr. Sankalp Dhanda, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Gurmeet Singh, AAG, Haryana.

SUMEET GOEL, J. (ORAL)

1. Present petition has been filed under Section 483 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (for short 'BNSS') for grant of regular bail to the petitioner in case FIR No.454 dated 24.09.2025 under Sections 111(2)(b), 308(5), 351(2) and 61 of BNS, 2023, registered at Police Station Krishna Gate, Thanesar, District Kurukshetra, Haryana.

2. The case set up in the FIR in question (as set out in the present petition by the petitioner) is as follows:-

"To, The Station House Officer, Police Station Krishna Gate, District Kurukshetra

Subject: Application against 1. Sajan, Mobile No. 83077- 22140 Tehsil Shahabad, District Kurukshetra; 2. Vicky Sodhi, resident of Village Sodhi, Tehsil Thanesar, District Kurukshetra, Mobile No. 90688-42920; 3. Anmol @ K.D., Mobile No. 88139-77715, resident of Gandhi Nagar, Thanesar; and Attu, resident Salarpur Road, Thanesar, District Kurukshetra, regarding demand of Rs. 5,00,000/- (Rupees Five Lakhs) as extortion money and threatening to kill by shooting in case of non-payment. Sir, I, Harry @ Vinay, son of Shri Yashpal, resident of Indra Colony, 4. near of Dates 07.20 Brahm Sarovar, Tehsil Thanesar, District Kurukshetra, humbly submit as under: That the applicant has been running a rehri/phadi (cart/stall) near Government Hospital, Kurukshetra, selling



coconut water and fruits, for the last about 7-8 months. I have known the above-named Sajan for about 4-5 months. In the month of July, at about 04:00-05:00 PM, Sajan came to my stall near Government Hospital, Kurukshetra, and told me that if I wanted to set up a stall there to sell coconut water/fruits, I would have to pay extortion money for this work. When I refused, he told me, "Do you know Vicky Sodhi? I member of his gang. If you do not pay the money, you will not reach home safely. I have been sent by Vicky Sodhi." Out of fear, I paid him Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand) in cash at that very time.

Thereafter, on 24.08.2025, at about 06:00 PM, the said Sajan, from mobile number 83077-22140, sent a scanner to my mobile phone number 9896810087 thereafter called me on WhatsApp and said, "I am Sajan on WhatsApp, and speaking. I have sent you a scanner; send Rs. 10,000/- on it." I stated that "I did not have that much money at that time". Thereupon, Sajan said that it appeared that I was not afraid of Vicky Sodhi and that I would only listen after some action was taken. Out of fear, I transferred Rs. 9,999/- (Rupees Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety- Nine) to the said scanner.

Thereafter, on 16.09.2025, I received a call from Sajan from mobile number 83077-22140, who told me that Vicky Sodhi had said that if I wanted to sell coconuts there, I would have to pay Rs. 5,000/- (Rupees Five Thousand) per day. I did not pay much attention to the words of Sajan.

Thereafter, on 19.09.2025, I received a call from mobile number 90688-42920, and the caller told me that Vicky Sodhi wanted to speak to me and asked me to hold for a minute. Thereafter, a person spoke on the phone and said, fam Vicky Sodhi speaking, and if you want to carry on the business of coconut water/fruit here, you will have to pay us Rs. 5,000/- per day." I replied that from where would I bring so much money every day, whereupon Vicky Sodhi told me, "Then do one thing-pay us Rs. 5,00,000/- (Rupees Five Lakhs) in one lump sum, otherwise shut down the coconut water/fruit business."

Vicky Sodhi further told me not to think that since he was in jail he could not do anything to me, and that if I told anyone about this matter, he would get me killed by shooting.

Thereafter, on 21.09.2025, at about 09:00 PM, when I had gone to the lane near Ankur Nursing Home for some personal work, a car bearing registration number HR12AA-5390, make I-20, and two to three motorcycles, suddenly came and stopped near me, and six to seven boys came towards me. Among them, Anmol @ K.D. and Attu got down, whom I already knew. On seeing me, they said, "Let us teach him a lesson for not paying extortion money to Vicky Sodhi."

On hearing their words, I immediately found opportunity and ran away from the spot into Shaugir Basti.

From that day onwards, out of fear, I have not set up my cart/stall. I have come to know that Vicky Sodhi regularly demands extortion money from small shopkeepers like me and collects money every month, and that in this extortion racket of Vicky Sodhi, his gang members Sajan, Anmol @ K.D., Attu, and several other boys work for Vicky Sodhi. I have refused to pay extortion money to Vicky Sodhi, due to which he may get me killed. Therefore, it is humbly prayed that strict legal action be taken against Vicky Sodhi and his above-named associates, and that protection be provided to me. Harry Vinay, son of Yashpal, Resident of Indra Colony, Applicant: Kurukshetra, Mobile No.: 9896810087 Dated: 25.09.2025 Whereupon FIR No. 454 dated 24.09.2025 under Sections 111(2) (b), 308(5), 351(2), and 61 (2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) was registered at Krishna Gate, Thanesar, and investigation of the case was Police Station carried out by ASI Vijay Kumar. Statements of the witnesses were recorded."



3. Learned senior counsel for the petitioner has argued that the petitioner is in custody since 13.10.2025. Learned senior counsel has further argued that the petitioner has been falsely implicated in the FIR in question, primarily on account of antecedents. Learned senior counsel has further submitted that the petitioner was lodged in jail when the alleged offence was committed. Learned senior counsel has further reiterated that the trial is progressing at a snail's pace. Thus, regular bail is prayed for.

4. Learned State counsel has opposed the present petition by arguing that the allegations raised are serious in nature and thus the petitioner does not deserve the concession of the regular bail. Learned State counsel seeks to place on record custody certificate dated 20.03.2026 in Court, which is taken on record.

5. I have heard counsel for the parties and have gone through the available records of the case.

6. The petitioner was arrested on 13.10.2025 wherein after investigation was carried out and challan stands presented on 19.12.2025 Total 22 prosecution witnesses have been cited but none has been examined till date. It is thus indubitable that culmination of trial will take its own time. The rival contentions raised by learned counsel give rise to debatable issues which shall be ratiocinated upon during the course of trial. This Court does not deem it appropriate to delve deep into these rival contentions, at this stage, lest it may prejudice the trial. Nothing tangible has been brought forward to indicate the likelihood of the petitioner absconding from the process of justice or interfering with the prosecution evidence.

6.1 As per custody certificate dated 20.03.2026 filed by learned



State counsel, the petitioner has already suffered incarceration for a period of 5 months and 5 days and is shown to be involved in other cases. As per the said custody certificate, the petitioner is stated to be involved in more cases. Indubitably, the antecedents of a person are required to be accounted for while considering a regular bail petition preferred by him. However, this factum cannot be a ground sufficient by itself, to decline the concession of regular bail to the petitioner in the FIR in question when a case is made out for grant of regular bail *qua* the FIR in question by ratiocinating upon the facts/circumstances of the said FIR. Reliance in this regard can be placed upon the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in *Maulana Mohd. Amir Rashadi v. State of U.P. and another, 2012 (1) RCR (Criminal) 586*; a Division Bench judgment of the Hon'ble Calcutta High Court in case of *Sridhar Das v. State, 1998 (2) RCR (Criminal) 477* & judgments of this Court in *CRM-M No.38822-2022* titled as *Akhilesh Singh v. State of Haryana*, decided on 29.11.2021, and *Balraj v. State of Haryana, 1998 (3) RCR (Criminal) 191*.

Suffice to say, further detention of the petitioner as an undertrial is not warranted in the facts and circumstances of the case.

7. In view of above, the present petition is allowed. Petitioner is ordered to be released on regular bail on his furnishing bail/surety bonds to the satisfaction of the Ld. concerned CJM/Duty Magistrate. However, in addition to conditions that may be imposed by the concerned CJM/Duty Magistrate, the petitioner shall remain bound by the following conditions:-

- (i) The petitioner shall not mis-use the liberty granted.
- (ii) The petitioner shall not tamper with any evidence, oral or documentary, during the trial.



- (iii) The petitioner shall not absent himself on any date before the trial.
- (iv) The petitioner shall not commit any offence while on bail.
- (v) The petitioner shall deposit his passport, if any, with the trial Court.
- (vi) The petitioner shall give his cell-phone number to the Investigating Officer/SHO of concerned Police Station and shall not change his cell-phone number without prior permission of the trial Court/Illaqa Magistrate.
- (vii) The petitioner shall not in any manner try to delay the trial.

8. In case of breach of any of the aforesaid conditions and those which may be imposed by concerned CJM/Duty Magistrate as directed hereinabove or upon showing any other sufficient cause, the State/complainant shall be at liberty to move cancellation of bail of the petitioner.

9. Ordered accordingly.

10. Nothing said hereinabove shall be construed as an expression of opinion on the merits of the case.

(SUMEET GOEL)
JUDGE

09.04.2026
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Whether speaking/reasoned:	Yes/No
Whether reportable:	Yes/No