



CRM-M-9049-2026

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

210/4

CRM-M-9049-2026
Decided on: 11.05.2026

Chhoti Mahant @ Choti

.....Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

.....Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY VASHISTH

Present: Mr. Naveen Bawa, Advocate
for the petitioner

Mr. Vinay Malhotra, DAG 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 FIR No.0023 dated 22.01.2026, under Sections 115(2), 118(1), 351(2), 190, 191(3) of BNS, 2023 at Police Station Dehlon, District Ludhiana.

2. On 17.02.2026, following order was passed:

“(i) xx xx xx xx

(ii) *Learned counsel for the petitioners, inter alia, contends that total eleven accused have been named in the present FIR, namely:- (1) Heena Mahant alias Vidyarthi Rao (petitioner herein), (2) Sheetal Mahant, (3) Shallu Mahant (petitioner herein), (4) Chatti Mahant, (5) Mehar Mahant, (6) Chela Rechna Mahant, (7) Prince, (8) Honey, (9) Sona Marasi, (10) Gulzar Marasi, and (11) Bunty Marasi.*

It is submitted that the alleged occurrence took place on 20.01.2026, and FIR was registered at the instance of the complainant, Mona Mahant alias Chela Ravina Mahant.



(iii) Counsel for the petitioners further submits that all the accused persons and complainant party belong to the transgender community, and dispute arose with regard to the collection of 'badhai' on the occasion of certain good news in the locality.

As per the allegations in the FIR, a scuffle took place between the parties. It is contended that injury attributed to the petitioner – Chhoti Mahant @ Choti is giving a brick blow on complainant – Mona Mahant Chela Ravina Mahant, and said injury was found to be simple in nature.

(iv) Besides, learned counsel for the petitioner submits that coaccused of the petitioner, namely; Shalu Mahant @ Shallu Mahant and Vidharthi Rao alias Heena Mahant, have already been granted concession of ad-interim bail vide order dated 12.02.2026, passed in CRM-M-8086-2026 & another connected case, titled as, "Shalu Mahant @ Shallu Mahant v. State of Punjab", and said petition is now posted for its hearing on 11.05.2026.

Thus, in view of above, he prays for grant of concession of anticipatory bail to the petitioner in the present case.

(v) Notice of motion.

(vi) On advance notice, learned State counsel puts in appearance on behalf of the respondent – State, and seeks some time to respond to the submissions addressed by learned counsel opposite, after seeking instructions. And, in case of necessity, to file status report by verifying the submissions addressed by the petitioner's counsel.

(vii) Adjourned to 11.05.2026.

(viii) In the meanwhile, the petitioner is directed to join the investigation as and when required to do so by the Investigating Agency. In the event of his arrest, the petitioner shall be released on ad-interim bail, subject to his furnishing bail bonds to the satisfaction of the Arresting Officer. The 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.).

(ix) 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.

(x) To be heard along with CRM-M-8086-2026."

3. Learned State counsel on instructions submits that the petitioner has joined the investigation on 09.05.2026, and as of now, custodial interrogation of

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the petitioner is not required for the purpose of investigation.

4. Since, petitioner has already joined the investigation and custodial interrogation is no more required; ad-interim bail order dated 17.02.2026 passed by this Court is hereby made absolute. Accordingly, present petition is allowed.

5. The 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.

6. However, present order would be subject to the submission of his passport to the Investigating Agency or to Court concerned, if he possesses, within a period of one week from today. Otherwise, he would submit an affidavit, disclosing the fact that he does not possess any passport.

7. It is clarified that in case, aforesaid condition is not complied with, this order would be considered as *non est* automatically.

11.05.2026

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**(SANJAY VASHISTH)
JUDGE**

Whether Speaking/Reasoned:
Whether Reportable:

YES/NO
~~YES~~/NO