



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

**CRM-M-11432-2026 (O&M)
Date of Decision: 24.03.2026**

SWARANDEEP SINGH CHAWLA ...Petitioner

V/S

STATE OF PUNJAB AND ANOTHER ...Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE SHALINI SINGH NAGPAL

Present: Mr. R.S. Bajaj, Advocate
and Mr. Sachin Kalia, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Sukhbeer Singh, DAG Punjab.

Mr. Rahul Soi, Advocate
for respondent No. 2.

SHALINI SINGH NAGPAL J. (Oral)

1. Petitioner seeks anticipatory bail in case arising out of FIR No. 04 dated 07.01.2026, under Sections 316(2), 85, 3(5) Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, Police Station Kotwali Nabha, District Patiala. This is his first petition for anticipatory bail.

2. On 27.02.2026, following order was passed:

“Petitioner seeks anticipatory bail in case arising out of FIR No.4 dated 07.01.2026 under Sections 316(2), 85, 3(5) Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, Police Station Kotwali Nabha, District Patiala. This is the first petition for anticipatory bail.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that marriage of petitioner with the complainant was solemnized on 15.02.2023. Complainant had levelled usual allegations of cruelty and demand of dowry. In fact, there was no question of giving or taking dowry as the marriage was a love marriage. Disputes between the husband and wife were

over trivial issues. The wife left for her parents' home on 26.06.2025 in normal circumstances but did not return whereafter, she lodged the FIR. It is further argued that co-accused parents-in-law had since been allowed anticipatory bail by this Court vide order dated 24.02.2026.

Notice of Motion.

Mr. Kunwarbir Singh, AAG Punjab, accepts notice on behalf of Respondent No.1-State. Mr. Rahul Soi, Advocate appears on behalf of respondent No.2 and files his memorandum of appearance. Power of attorney be filed on next date of hearing.

Petitioner is directed to appear before the Investigating/Arresting Officer and join investigation within one week or as and when required. In the event of his arrest, the Investigating/Arresting Officer shall release the petitioner on interim anticipatory bail on furnishing personal/surety bonds to his/her satisfaction. The petitioner shall also abide by the conditions as envisaged under Section 482(2) of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023.

On request of learned counsel for the petitioner as well as counsel for complainant, the matter is referred to mediation. Parties are directed to appear before the Mediation and Conciliation Centre of this Court on 06.03.2026.

*State is directed to file status report on
24.03.2026.*

To be heard along with CRM-M-10753-2026.”

3. Vide order dated 27.02.2026 passed by this Court, petitioner was granted interim bail and was directed to join investigation.

4. Learned State counsel, on instructions from ASI Balwinder Singh submits that petitioner has joined investigation. Assisted by learned counsel for respondent No.2, he opposes the prayer for anticipatory bail on the ground that gold articles and documents of complainant are yet to be recovered from the petitioner.

5. Petitioner has joined investigation pursuant to order of this Court dated 27.02.2026. Whether or not, the gold articles and documents were indeed entrusted to the petitioner, would be a matter of trial. In the facts and circumstances of the case, but without commenting on merits, the petition is allowed and order dated 27.02.2026, granting interim bail to the petitioner, is made absolute, subject to the conditions laid down in Section 482(2) of Bharatiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023.

6. Pending CRM(s), if any, are also disposed of accordingly.

24.03.2026
Ajay Goswami

(SHALINI SINGH NAGPAL)
JUDGE

<i>Whether speaking/reasoned</i>	<i>Yes/No</i>
<i>Whether reportable</i>	<i>Yes/No</i>