

2026:PHHC:074119

209 (1st case)

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH

CRM-M-11675-2026

Manpreet Kaur and another

....Petitioners

versus

State of Punjab

....Respondent

Date of Decision: May 12, 2026

Date of Uploading: May 12, 2026

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUMEET GOEL

Present: Mr. Ashok Kumar Khunger, Advocate for the petitioners.

Mr. Jaypreet Singh, DAG Punjab.

Mr. Navjinder Singh Sidhu, Advocate for the complainant.

SUMEET GOEL, J. (ORAL)

Present petition has been filed under Section 482 of the Bhartiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (for short 'BNSS') for grant of concession of anticipatory bail to the petitioners, in case FIR No.0009 dated 01.02.2026, registered for offences punishable under Sections 303(2), 351(2), 324(4), 190, 191(3) of the BNS, 2023 (corresponding Sections 379, 506, 427, 148, 149 of IPC), at Police Station Bariwala, District Sri Muktsar Sahib.

2. On 19.03.2026, the following order was passed:

“Apprehending their arrest in FIR No.0009 dated 01.02.2026, registered for offences punishable under Sections 303(2), 351(2), 324(4), 190, 191(3) of the BNS, 2023 (corresponding Sections 379, 506, 427, 148, 149 of IPC), at Police Station Bariwala, District Sri Muktsar Sahib; the petitioners have preferred this petition under Section 482 of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 seeking pre-arrest bail.

Inter alia contends that the genesis of the FIR in question is a civil suit, no effective recovery is to be made from the petitioners, & the petitioners are willing to join investigation and cooperate therein.

Learned State counsel has filed reply by way of an affidavit dated 15.03.2026, in the Court today, which is taken on record.

Put up on 27.04.2026.

The counsel for the complainant is at liberty to file reply, if so advised.

The petitioners are directed to appear before the Investigating Officer on 24.03.2026 at 11:00 A.M. in concerned Police Station and join investigation. In the event of arrest, the petitioners shall be released on interim bail subject to their furnishing personal/surety bond(s) to the satisfaction of the Arresting Officer/Investigating Officer. As and when further called by Investigating Officer, the petitioners shall join the investigation. They shall abide by the condition(s) enumerated under Section 482(2) of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023.”

3. Learned State counsel (on instructions) has stated that pursuant to the order dated 19.03.2026, the petitioners have indeed joined investigation and their custody interrogation is not required.

4. Learned counsel for the complainant has vehemently opposed the grant of anticipatory bail to the petitioners by arguing that allegations against the petitioners are serious in nature, and in case, the petitioners are extended the concession of anticipatory bail, there is all likelihood that they may abscond from the process of justice and interfere in the prosecution evidence.

5. Having heard learned counsel for the parties and upon perusal of the record; especially in view of the factum of the petitioners having joined investigation and their custodial interrogation is not being sought for by the State; the interim order dated 19.03.2026 passed by this Court is made absolute, subject to the conditions as enumerated under Section 482(2) of BNSS, 2023.

6. Petition stands **allowed**, accordingly.

7. This order should not be treated as “blanket” order. It will not be read granting petitioners indefinite protection from arrest. It shall be confined to

the FIR mentioned *ibid* and will not operate in respect of any other incident that involves commission of an offence.

8. Liberty is reserved in favour of State/complainant to move for cancellation/recall of this order in case the petitioners violate any condition stipulated under Section 482(2) of BNSS, 2023 or upon showing any other sufficient cause.
9. Needless to say that anything observed herein above shall not be construed to be an opinion on the merits of the case.
10. Pending application(s), if any, shall also stand disposed of.

(SUMEET GOEL)
JUDGE

May 12, 2026

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Whether speaking/reasoned: Yes/No

Whether reportable: Yes/No