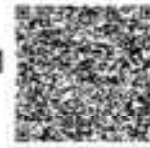


IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

2026:PHHC:062721



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CRM-M-15244 of 2026(O&M)

Reserved on: 23.04.2026

Pronounced on:24.04.2026

Uploaded on:24.04.2026

Sachin Grover

..Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

..Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE SHALINI SINGH NAGPAL

Present: Mr. Deepak Sabherwal, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Sukhbeer Singh, DAG Punjab.

SHALINI SINGH NAGPAL, J.

Petitioner seeks anticipatory bail in case vide FIR No.10 dated 08.02.2026 under Section 64 BNS 2023 (earlier Section 376 IPC) Police Station Sadar Phagwara, District Kapurthala. This is the first petition for anticipatory bail.

Prosecutrix alleged that Rahul Rao and Sachin Gorver were running a company in the name and style of Zee Punjabi Kalyan Jewellery Suit, Jalandhar. They uploaded a job related advertisement on "Work India" for the post of Manager. She applied for the post online on 23.12.2025, online interview was conducted by the Company and she was selected. She was called to Konica Resort Phagwara for handing over the joining letter. On 23.12.2025, when she reached Konica Resort, Rahul Rao and Sachin Grover met her. They lingered on the matter and later took her to a room in

the resort, where she was raped without her consent and threatened to death. Out of fear, she returned home. On 26.12.2025 she made a complaint at 112 and was called by Mehru Chowki Incharge. Despite her complaint, the incharge inconnivance with the accused took no action. Legal action was prayed for.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that petitioner was running a private construction company in the name and style of S.G. Builders. He required a Manager for his firm and published an advertisement for the job, the complainant answered the advertisement and went through a preliminary online interview. She was called to Phagwara alongwith all her documents for verification. A meeting was planned in Hotel Konica Resort and a room was taken. The Hotel management took the Aadhar card of the petitioner and the victim and the meeting lasted for about 15-20 minutes. There was no attempt to rape nor any physical intimacy between them. Complainant was paid Rs.2000/- online towards travel expenses for attending the meeting. The very next day, she called the petitioner from her mobile phone and demanded Rs.50,000/-, besides a job. Petitioner ignored her call whereupon complainant made multiple WhatsApp calls to the petitioner on 24.12.2025 and 25.12.2025. The WhatsApp messages on record as Annexure P3 also suggested that prosecutrix was demanding money. Fed up, petitioner blocked her. After three days, prosecutrix got the case registered. No medical of the prosecutrix was conducted. Petitioner had joined investigation twice and was still ready and willing to cooperate in investigation.

Learned State counsel opposes the prayer for anticipatory bail on the ground of grave and serious nature of allegations. He submits that

medical examination of prosecutrix was conducted and FSL report was yet awaited. Dismissal of the application was prayed for.

Petitioner alongwith one another is alleged to have gang raped the prosecutrix on 23.12.2025. It is not disputed that petitioner took a room in Hotel Konica Resort and the Hotel staff took Aadhar card of the petitioner and the victim. The benefit of anticipatory bail cannot be granted as a matter of routine, unless a clear case therefore is made out. Considering the nature and substance of allegations against the petitioner, the gravity of offence, quantum of punishment conviction may entail, the Court is of the opinion that it is not a fit case to enlarge the petitioner on anticipatory bail.

Dismissed.

All the pending miscellaneous applications, if any, stand disposed of.

(SHALINI SINGH NAGPAL)
JUDGE

24.04.2026

reema		
Whether speaking/reasoned	:	Yes
Whether reportable	:	No