

2026.PHHC.078086



IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

CRM-M-17291-2026

Lovish
...Petitioner

Versus

State of Haryana
...Respondent

Sr. No.	Particulars	Details
1	The date when the judgment is reserved	18.05.2026
2	The date when the judgment is pronounced	20.05.2026
3	The date when the judgment is uploaded on the website	20.05.2026
4	Whether only operative part of the judgment is pronounced or full judgment is pronounced	Full
5	The delay, if any, of the pronouncement of full judgment, and reasons thereof	Not applicable

CORAM: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE MANISHA BATRA

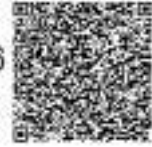
Present: Mr. G.C. Shahpuri, Advocate for the petitioner.
Mr. Neeraj Poswal, Assistant Advocate General, Haryana.
Mr. Birinder Pal, Advocate for the complainant.

MANISHA BATRA, J :-

The present petition has been filed under Section 483 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (for short ‘BNSS’) by the petitioner seeking grant of regular bail in case bearing FIR No. 156 dated 27.02.2025 registered under Sections 103, 127(6), 3(5) of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (for short ‘BNS’) at Police Station Sadar Karnal, District Karnal, Haryana.

2. The aforementioned FIR was initially registered under Section 127(6) of BNS on the basis of a written complaint submitted by the

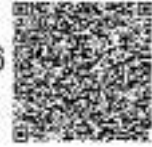
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complainant Satbir, alleging therein that his younger son Anil Kumar had left house on his motorcycle a day before and had not returned home. His motorcycle was found lying parked near Ram leela ground and his phone was also found to be switched off and they could not locate him after making search. After registration of FIR, investigation proceedings were initiated. The complainant recorded his supplementary statement on 27.02.2025 raising suspicion upon the petitioner, who was a friend of his son and Amit Kumar on the basis of which they were joined into investigation on 28.02.2025 and recorded their statements that they along with the victim had consumed liquor and when the victim had gone to the river bank to ease himself, he had slipped and had fallen into the same. The dead body of the victim was found floating in river near Gogripur powerhouse on 03.03.2025. The same was identified by the family members. The cell phone of the victim was recovered from the right pocket of pant of the victim. CCTV footages of the cameras installed in the vicinity were secured in which the petitioner along with the co-accused Amit Kumar and the victim, was seen going on a motorcycle on 26.02.2025. The petitioner and co-accused Amit Kumar were formally arrested on 04.03.2025. On interrogation, they suffered disclosure statements admitting their involvement in the crime. Offences under Sections 103 and 3(5) of BNS were added. The petitioner and co-accused demarcated the place of occurrence. The petitioner admitted that the victim had been pushed by him into the river. Investigation now stands concluded.

3. It is argued by learned counsel for the petitioner that he has been falsely implicated in this case. He was not named in the FIR. Though he was

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joined into investigation on 28.02.2025 but was left by the police. His subsequent implication is without any justification and is only on the basis of suspicion. He is not required for further investigation. There is not eye witness to the occurrence. The post mortem report does not prove it to be a case of homicidal death rather no cause of death has been ascertained as per this report. In the CCTV footage, the petitioner is not visible and rather the deceased himself is seen to be driving a motorcycle. The reliability and admissibility of the CCTV footage is to be established only on the basis of evidence to be produced during trial. He has been in custody since long. He was a good friend of the victim and had no motive whatsoever to eliminate the victim. The victim had died due to drowning in the river. Further incarceration of the petitioner will not serve any useful purpose. The complainant Satbir has since been examined, hence, there are no chances of his intimidating the material witnesses. It is, therefore, argued that the petition deserves to be allowed.

4. *Per contra*, learned State counsel assisted by learned counsel for the complainant has argued that there are serious allegations against the petitioner. He was seen going along with the victim and co-accused Amit Kumar towards the place of occurrence and had been found missing after the occurrence. As per his own disclosure statement, he along with the co-accused had pushed the victim into the river thereby causing his death. The trial is going at a proper pace. There is nothing on record to show that there would be any undue delay in conclusion of the same. Therefore, it is stressed that the petition does not deserve to be allowed.

5. This Court has heard the rival submissions made by learned

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counsel for the parties at considerable length.

6. The petitioner along with the co-accused is alleged to have pushed the victim, who was their friend into the river on 26.02.2025. The act and conduct of the petitioner in not informing about the alleged slipping of the victim in the river and drowning therein, raises a reasonable suspicion about his complicity in the crime, since as per his own claim, he was a good friend of the victim. In that circumstance, his natural act and conduct would have been to immediately inform the family members of the victim about his slipping into the river instead of keeping quiet and not disclosing about the incident to anybody till 28.02.2025. The allegations make out a *prima facie* case as against the petitioner. There is nothing to show that there would not any undue delay in conclusion of the trial. Taking into consideration the nature of the accusations as levelled against the petitioner, the quantum of sentence which the conviction may entail and the attendant facts and circumstances, this Court is of the considered opinion that the petition does not deserve to be allowed. Accordingly, the same is dismissed.

7. It is clarified that observations made hereinabove shall not be construed as an expression of opinion on the merits of the case.

8. Since the main petition has already been disposed of, pending application, if any, is rendered infructuous.

[MANISHA BATRA]
JUDGE

20th May, 2026
Parveen Sharma

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|-------------------------------|---|----------|
| 1. Whether speaking/ reasoned | : | Yes / No |
| 2. Whether reportable | : | Yes / No |