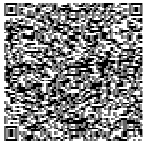


CRM-M-18294-2026

2026:PHHC:063708



140

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT
CHANDIGARH

CRM-M-18294-2026

Harjit Singh

....Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

...Respondent

Date of Decision: April 27, 2026
Date of Uploading: April 27, 2026

CORAM: HON’BLE MR. JUSTICE SUMEET GOEL

Present:- Mr. Gurmeet Singh, Advocate for the petitioner.
Mr. Adhiraj Singh Thind, AAG Punjab.

SUMEET GOEL, J. (ORAL)

Present petition has been filed under Section 483 of the BNSS seeking grant of regular bail to the petitioner, in case bearing FIR No.0070 dated 26.08.2024, registered for the offences punishable under Sections 177, 420, 465, 467, 468, 471 of IPC (Section 120-B of IPC added later on) [erstwhile Sections 212, 318(4), 336(2), 338, 336(3), 340(2) of BNS, 2023 (Section 61(2) of BNS added later on)], at Police Station Garhdiwal, District Hoshiarpur.

2. The gravamen of the FIR in question is that co-accused Amarjit Kaur had forged an order dated 30.04.2024. She allegedly affixed fake seals and stamps of the Copying Agency as well as of the Judicial Magistrate First

CRM-M-18294-2026

Class, Dasuya, and presented the fabricated order before the Naib Tehsildar, Garhdiwala. On the basis of this forged document, entry No.328 dated 13.06.2024 was incorporated into the jamabandi for the year 2018–19 pertaining to Village Raghwal, Tehsil Dasuya, District Hoshiarpur. The revenue authorities, without verifying the authenticity of the said order, proceeded to make the entry. Subsequently, Amarjit Kaur transferred the disputed property in favour of Nirmal Kaur, wife of Ranjit Singh, and mutation entry No.1577 dated 19.06.2024 was sanctioned. It was later discovered that the original order dated 06.03.2023, passed by the Court of Shri Jatinder Pal Singh Khurmi, the then Learned Additional District Judge, Hoshiarpur, had been manipulated. A forged copy of this order was prepared by affixing fake seals/stamps of the Examiner, Copying Agency, along with a counterfeit round seal of the Judicial Magistrate First Class, Dasuya.

3. Learned counsel for the petitioner has argued that the petitioner is in custody since 26.11.2025. Learned counsel has iterated that the petitioner has been falsely implicated into the FIR in question. Learned counsel has argued that the petitioner has been primarily implicated on the basis of disclosure statement of co-accused, namely, Ranjit Singh, who inturn has been nominated into the FIR in question on the basis of disclosure statement made by another co-accused, namely, Gural Singh. Learned counsel has submitted that the said disclosure is not tenable in law. Learned counsel has further submitted that prime accused into the FIR in question is Amarjit Kaur, who is the beneficiary. Learned counsel has submitted that the said co-accused, namely, Amarjit Kaur and Ranjit Singh have been extended the concession of regular bail, vide order dated 22.12.2025 passed by this

CRM-M-18294-2026

Court in **CRM-M-54771-2025** and **CRM-M-65593-2025**. Thus, regular bail is prayed for.

4. Learned State counsel has filed short reply by way of an affidavit dated 21.04.2026, in the Court today, which is taken on record. Raising submissions in tandem with the said short reply, learned State counsel has opposed the present petition by arguing that allegations raised against the petitioner are serious in nature and, thus, the petitioner does not deserve the concession of the regular bail. Learned State counsel also seeks to place on record the custody certificate dated 26.04.2026, in the Court today, which is taken on record.

5. I have heard counsel for the parties and have gone through the available records of the case.

6. The petitioner was arrested on 26.11.2025, whereinafter, the investigation was carried out and the challan *qua* petitioner has been presented on 25.03.2026. Total 18 cited prosecution witnesses have been cited and it is the conceded case before this Court that only 01 has been examined till date. The rival contentions raised at Bar give rise to debatable issues, which shall essentially be ratiocinated upon during the course of trial. This Court does not deem it appropriate to delve deep into these rival contentions, at this stage, *lest* it may prejudice the trial. Nothing tangible has been brought forward to indicate the likelihood of the petitioner absconding from the process of justice or interfering with the prosecution evidence.

6.1. As per custody certificate dated 26.04.2026 filed by learned State counsel, the petitioner has already suffered incarceration for a period of 04 months and 28 days.

CRM-M-18294-2026

6.2. As per custody certificate, the petitioner is not shown to be involved in any other FIR(s), however, as per short reply by way of an affidavit dated 21.04.2026, filed by the State, as stated aforesaid, the petitioner is shown to be involved in one another FIR case. However, this factum cannot be a ground sufficient by itself, to decline the concession of regular bail to the petitioner in the FIR in question when a case is made out for grant of regular bail *qua* the FIR in question by ratiocinating upon the facts/circumstances of the said FIR. Reliance in this regard can be placed upon the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in *Maulana Mohd. Amir Rashadi v. State of U.P. and another, 2012 (1) RCR (Criminal) 586*, a Division Bench judgment of the Hon'ble Calcutta High Court in case of *Sridhar Das v. State, 1998 (2) RCR (Criminal) 477* & judgments of this Court in CRM-M No.38822-2022 titled as *Akhilesh Singh v. State of Haryana*, decided on 29.11.2021, and *Balraj v. State of Haryana, 1998 (3) RCR (Criminal) 191*.

Suffice to say, further detention of the petitioner as an undertrial is not warranted in the facts and circumstances of the case.

7. In view of above, the present petition is allowed. Petitioner is ordered to be released on regular bail, if not required in any other case, on his furnishing bail/surety bonds to the satisfaction of the Ld. concerned CJM/Duty Magistrate. However, in addition to conditions that may be imposed by the concerned CJM/Duty Magistrate, the petitioner shall remain bound by the following conditions:

- (i) The petitioner shall not mis-use the liberty granted.
- (ii) The petitioner shall not tamper with any evidence, oral or documentary, during the trial.

CRM-M-18294-2026

- (iii) The petitioner shall not absent himself on any date before the trial.
- (iv) The petitioner shall not commit any offence while on bail.
- (v) The petitioner shall deposit his passport, if any, with the trial Court.
- (vi) The petitioner shall give his cellphone number to the Investigating Officer/SHO of concerned Police Station and shall not change his cell-phone number without prior permission of the trial Court/Illaqa Magistrate.
- (vii) The petitioner shall not in any manner try to delay the trial.

8. In case of breach of any of the aforesaid conditions and those which may be imposed by concerned CJM/Duty Magistrate as directed hereinabove or upon showing any other sufficient cause, the State/complainant shall be at liberty to move cancellation of bail of the petitioner.

9. Ordered accordingly.

10. Nothing said hereinabove shall be construed as an expression of opinion on the merits of the case.

11. Since the main case has been decided, pending miscellaneous application, if any, shall also stands disposed off.

(SUMEET GOEL)
JUDGE

April 27, 2026

mahavir

Whether speaking/reasoned: Yes/No

Whether reportable: Yes/No