



222

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH**

CRM-M-17969-2026

Date of decision: 24.04.2026

RAVINDER KUMAR**....Petitioner**

Versus

STATE OF PUNJAB**....Respondent****CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUBHAS MEHLA**

Present: Mr. Lakshay Bector, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Sandeep Kumar, DAG Punjab.

SUBHAS MEHLA, J (Oral):

The present petition has been filed under Section 483 of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023 for grant of regular bail in case bearing FIR No.15 dated 21.01.2026 under Sections 316(4), 306, 336(2), 338, 336(3), 340(2) and 317(2) of the BNS, 2023 (Sections 408, 381, 465, 467, 468, 471 and 411 of the IPC), registered at Police Station Salem Tabri, District Ludhiana.

2. Brief facts of the case are that FIR has been registered against the accused on the statement of complainant Vishal Kumar on the allegations that his father Gurucharan Singh started a hosiery manufacturing unit in the year 2017. In their factory, petitioner had been looking after the online factory work for about one year. On 06.01.2026, he left the job. At the time of leaving, he returned the factory mobile phone which had a JIO SIM bearing no. 79739-92715. When he checked the



mobile phone, he found documents on their company letterhead bearing forged signatures of his father Gurucharan Singh. On further checking, screenshots were found showing that fake salary slips had been prepared in the names of their company staff. Petitioner while being an employee of their factory, was also opening other fake firms and selling goods online. Further, he prepared fake salary slip's and forged the signatures of his father, on the basis of which co-accused-Kuljit Singh, applied for a loan in Fullerton India Bank. Petitioner had prepared many other forged documents on their's company letterhead and produced the same. In this manner, petitioner-Ravinder Kumar and co-accused-Kuljit Singh have admitted that they, in conspiracy, committed fraud with the factory.

3. Learned counsel for the petitioner contended that the petitioner has been falsely involved in this case; the investigation has been completed; no financial loss is caused to anyone; no loan has been sanctioned by the Bank on the alleged fake stamp and forged signatures of father of the complainant by the petitioner; the regular bail application filed by the petitioner was wrongly dismissed by the learned Additional Sessions Judge, Ludhiana vide order dated 23.03.2026 (Annexure P-3); co-accused Kuljeet Singh has already been granted the concession of regular bail by this Court vide order dated 06.04.2026 passed in CRM-M-11974-2026; the present petitioner has been in custody for the last more than 02 months; therefore, no fruitful purpose would be served by keeping the petitioner behind the bars as he is not required for recovery purposes; trial will take sufficient time to conclude and as such, prayed for concession of regular bail.



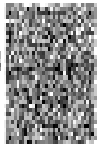
4. Notice of motion.

5. Mr. Sandeep Kumar, DAG Punjab, who is present in Court, accepted notice on behalf of respondent-State, and by way of filing of custody certificate dated 23.04.2026, opposed the concession of regular bail to the petitioner and petitioner had prepared a fake salary slips in the attempt to obtain a loan from the Bank; however, it is admitted that no loan was sanctioned on the basis of the said fake documents; the petitioner has been in custody for a period of 02 months & 30 days and as such, prayed for dismissal of the present petition.

6. Heard.

7. Taking into consideration the facts & circumstances of the present case and the contentions raised by learned counsel for the parties and the present petitioner is in custody for last 02 months & 30 days; co-accused Kuljeet Singh has already been granted the concession of regular bail by this Court vide order dated 06.04.2026 passed in CRM-M-11974-2026; trial will take sufficient time to conclude and no fruitful purpose would be served by keeping him in custody for any further period, as concession of bail cannot be denied just as a measure of punishment as culpability is to be decided by trial Court after appreciating evidence adduced by the parties, and it is a trite principle of criminal jurisprudence that bail is rule, jail is an exception, this Court deems it a fit case to grant the concession of regular bail to the petitioner.

8. Therefore, without expressing any opinion on the merits of the case, the instant petition is **allowed**. The petitioner is ordered to be released on regular bail on his furnishing requisite bonds to the satisfaction of the



trial Court/Duty Magistrate/Chief Judicial Magistrate concerned.

9. Nothing observed herein shall be construed as an opinion on the merits of the main case.

(SUBHAS MEHLA)
JUDGE

24.04.2026
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- 1. Whether speaking/ reasoned : Yes /No
- 2. Whether reportable : Yes /No