



IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH.

210 CRM-M-19181-2026 (O&M).
Date of Decision: 20.05.2026.

Anil SoodPetitioner.
VERSUS
State of PunjabRespondent.

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY VASHISTH

Present: Mr. Vrishank Suri, Advocate for the petitioner.
Mr. Manjinder Singh Bhullar, DAG, Punjab.

SANJAY VASHISTH, J. (Oral)

1. Prayer in this petition, filed under Section 482 of the BNSS, 2023 (earlier Section 438 Cr.P.C.), is for grant of anticipatory bail to the petitioner, who has been booked in a criminal case arising out of First Information Report, as detailed hereunder:-

Name of petitioner	FIR No.	Date	Section(s)	Police Station	District
Anil Sood	32	26.02.2026	316(2), 318(4) of BNS (corresponding sections 406 and 420 IPC).	Police Commissionerate	Ludhiana

2. On 08.04.2026, following order was passed:-

- “1. xxx
2. FIR has been registered at the instance of complainantBhagat Bhalla, to the effect that:
- “that he is dealing with High Speed Steel (Alloy Tool Steel) and HSS cutting tool. In May, 2025 he contacted the accused/applicant, supplier of High Speed Steel (HSS) to purchase the same grade name M-2. He purchased 7000 kilograms (approx) of High Speed Steel of Grade M-2 in May, June and July 2025 from Max Enterprises which was as per the specification/composition as required. He further stated that the last transaction was of 2500

kilograms which was taken place on 30.7.2025 for Rs.21,53,500/- and the payment was made through NEFT. As per the report of sample test of steel, it was reported that specification in composition of steel was not as per the specification, which was required and was of inferior quality and grade was EN-31. The complainant further stated that he tried to contact the accused/applicant several times but the accused/applicant refused to meet and refused to change the steel supplied by him in the last week of July, 2025 and threatened him with dire consequences if the complainant against tried to contact him. It has been submitted that the earlier steel supplied by the accused/applicant may also be of inferior quality.”

3. *Learned counsel for the petitioner argues that the dispute, if any, is entirely of a civil nature, arising out of alleged dissatisfaction regarding the goods delivered to the complainant, who is running a firm/company under the name of RR Tool Steel. Counsel further submits that no written agreement was executed in respect of the transaction, which initially took place in May 2025.*

4. *Counsel also submits that, although issue is essentially civil in nature, even for the sake of argument, if it is assumed that the goods are of inferior quality, there is no expert opinion on record regarding the specific quality of the goods. Moreover, complainant relies upon a private laboratory report, which is yet to be proved before the Court.*

It is further submitted that petitioner is ready and willing to join the investigation, provided he is protected from arrest. Thus, learned counsel prays for the grant of anticipatory bail to the petitioner.

5. *Notice of motion.*

On advance notice, Mr. Neeraj Madaan, Sr. DAG, Punjab puts in appearance on behalf of the respondent – State. He seeks some time to file reply.

6. *Adjourned to 11.05.2026.*

7. *In the meanwhile, petitioner is directed to join the investigation as and when required to do so by the Investigating Agency. In the event of his arrest, petitioner shall be released on interim bail, subject to his furnishing bail bonds to the satisfaction of the Arresting Officer. Petitioner shall also be abide by all the conditions laid down under Section 482(2) of BNSS, 2023 (earlier Section 438(2) Cr.P.C.).*

8. *Besides, it is directed that petitioner would hand over his passport to the Investigating Agency or to Court concerned, if he possesses. Otherwise, would submit an affidavit, disclosing the fact that he does not possess any passport.*

It is also directed that before leaving country any time during trial, petitioner would seek prior permission of the Court.”

3. Continuing his submissions, learned counsel for the petitioner contends that in compliance of the order dated 08.04.2026, passed by this Court, petitioner has joined the investigation, and has fully co-operated.

Therefore, he prays for confirmation of the said interim anticipatory bail order.

4. Learned State counsel on instructions, confirms the said averment made by counsel for the petitioner of joining the investigation by the petitioner, and submits that as of now, custodial interrogation of the petitioner is not required for the purpose of investigation. He further submits that petitioner has submitted his Passport.

5. Heard learned counsel for the parties.

6. Since, petitioner has already joined the investigation and custodial interrogation is no more required; ad-interim bail order dated 08.04.2026, passed by this Court is hereby made absolute. Accordingly, present petition is allowed.

However, petitioner shall continue to join the investigation as and when required to do so and abide by all the terms and conditions laid down under Section 482(2) of BNSS, 2023.

7. Accordingly, petition stands disposed of.

(SANJAY VASHISTH)
JUDGE

20.05.2026

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Whether speaking/ reasoned	:	Yes/ No
Whether Reportable	:	Yes/ No