

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

2026:PHHC:075065



(209)

CRM-M-19619-2026
Decided on: 13.05.2026
Uploaded on: 13.05.2026

Paras Jain

.....Petitioner(s)

Versus

State of Punjab

.....Respondent(s)

CORAM : HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE SUMEET GOEL

Present: Mr. G.S. Bhatia, Advocate for the petitioner (s).

Mr. Jaypreet Singh, DAG, Punjab.

Mr. Rahul Vohra & Ms. Sonali Aggarwal, Advocates
for the complainant.

Sumeet Goel (Oral):

1. Apprehending his arrest in FIR No.55 dated 06.03.2026 registered for offences punishable under Section 318(4) of BNS 2023 and Section 24 of the Immigration Act, at Police Station Haibowal, District Ludhiana; the petitioner has preferred this petition under Section 482 of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 seeking pre-arrest bail.

2. On 09.04.2026, the following order was passed:

“Apprehending his arrest in FIR No.55 dated 06.03.2026 registered for offences punishable under Section 318(4) of BNS 2023 and Section 24 of the Immigration Act, at Police Station Haibowal, District Ludhiana; the petitioner has preferred this

petition under Section 482 of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 seeking pre-arrest bail.

Counsel for the petitioner, inter alia, contends that the petitioner was merely helping the FIR-complainant for travelling abroad, the FIR-complainant had earlier got registered an FIR against the petitioner i.e. FIR No.175 dated 13.10.2025 under Sections 406, 420 IPC, at Police Station Haibowal, Ludhiana & the petitioner is willing to join investigation and cooperate therein as per law.

Notice of motion.

On the strength of advance notice; Mr. Hemant Aggarwal, DAG, Punjab has entered appearance on behalf of the respondent-State of Punjab.

Adjourned to 13.05.2026.

The petitioner is directed to appear before the Investigating Officer on 17.04.2026 at 11:00 A.M. in concerned Police Station and join investigation. In the event of arrest, the petitioner shall be released on interim bail subject to his furnishing personal/surety bond(s) to the satisfaction of the Arresting Officer/Investigating Officer. As and when further called by Investigating Officer, the petitioner shall join the investigation. He shall abide by the condition(s) enumerated under Section 482(2) of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023.”

3. Learned State counsel (on instructions) has submitted that the petitioner has joined investigation but his custodial interrogation is required for effecting the recovery of passport of the complainant.

3.1. Learned counsel for the complainant has vehemently opposed the grant of anticipatory bail to the petitioner by arguing that allegations raised against the petitioner are serious in nature and in case the petitioner is extended the concession of anticipatory bail, there is all the likelihood that he may interfere with the investigation as also intimidate the witnesses and also the FIR-complainant.

4. Having heard learned counsel for the rival parties and upon perusal of the record; especially keeping in view the factum of the petitioner having joined investigation & cooperated therein and his custodial interrogation being sought for recovery of the passport of the complainant; this Court is inclined to confirm the order dated 09.04.2026. Accordingly, the petition is allowed and the order dated 09.04.2026 is made absolute.
5. This order should not be treated as “blanket” order. It will not be read granting petitioner indefinite protection from arrest. It shall be confined to the FIR mentioned *ibid* and will not operate in respect of any other incident that involves commission of an offence.
6. Liberty is reserved in favour of State/complainant to move for cancellation/recall of this order in case the petitioner violates any condition stipulated under Section 482(2) of BNSS or upon showing any other sufficient cause.
7. Needless to say that anything observed herein above shall not be construed to be an opinion on the merits of the case.
8. Pending application(s), if any, shall also stand disposed off.

13.05.2026

Naveen

(SUMEET GOEL)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned :

Yes/No

Whether Reportable :

Yes/No