



IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

107

CRM-M-28849-2026 (O&M)

Date of decision: 20.05.2026

Karnail Singh

...Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

State of Haryana

...Respondent(s)

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VINOD S. BHARDWAJ

Present :- Mr. Bhupender Singh, Advocate for the petitioner(s).

Ms. Chhavi Sharma, AAG Haryana.

VINOD S. BHARDWAJ, J. (Oral)

1. This first petition has been filed for grant of anticipatory bail to the petitioner in case bearing FIR No.14 dated 08.02.2026 registered under Sections 305, 331(4) [(Section 317(2) added later on] of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 at Police Station Dhand, District Kaithal.

2. The present FIR was registered on the complaint/statement of Jitender son of Yashpal, which reads thus:-

“xxxxx I am agriculturist by occupation and I have installed tubewell in my fields. On 18.01.2026 some unknown person has stolen the cable and starter of tubewell from the room constructed in my fields. I came to know that the cable of tubewell/motors are also stolen from the room of tubewell of my neighbours namely Rampal son of Phul Singh, Pawan son of Mehar Singh, Rajesh son of Munshi alias Jagdish Dalip Singh son of Itar Singh, Rajinder son of Kehar Singh, Isham

Singh son of Mangal Ram, Jaipal son of Raghvir Singh, Vicky son of Jasbir, Aman son of Ram Chand, Naresh son of Phul Singh, Satpal son of Patwari Ram, residents of village Kaul. We were inquiring about it on our own level and we came to know that the police of Karnal has apprehended some persons. You are requested that the inquiry of this matter be conducted so that no such incident be occurred in future. I have submitted my complaint to you in the Police Station. Our starter and 100 feet cable are stolen. Sd/- Jitender, son of Yashpal resident of village Kaul Mob: 9466282400.”

3. Learned counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioner contends that on the date of registration of the present FIR, the petitioner was in custody in another case. He has been falsely implicated in the present case on the basis of disclosure of co-accused. It is also contended that there is an unexplained delay of 21 days in registration of the FIR.

4. Learned State counsel, however, contends that the petitioner is making a false statement in as much as the present FIR was registered on 08.02.2026, however, the incident in question took place on 18.01.2026 and on that date, the petitioner was not in custody. It is contended that in such incidents, on receipt of a complaint, the police usually conducts a preliminary inquiry and hence, mere delay in registration of the FIR would not *ipso facto* inure in favour of the petitioner herein. She further contends that the petitioner is a history-sheeter and was involved in similar cases and there are two more cases of theft and being in receipt of stolen property i.e. FIR bearing No.991/2025 registered under Sections 303, 112 of the

Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 at Police Station Sadar Karnal and FIR bearing No.241/2026 registered under Section 303 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 at Police Station Munak, District Karnal against him. Hence, he is a habitual offender.

5. I have heard the learned counsel appearing on behalf of the respective parties and have gone through the documents appended with the instant petition with their able assistance.

6. Prima facie, the arguments advanced by the counsel for the petitioner neither inspire confidence nor reflect any false implication. The repeated involvement of the petitioner in similar offences is another circumstance weighing against him. Besides, the custodial interrogation of the petitioner is necessary to ascertain his involvement in any other similar offence that may have been committed by him. Despite being involved in other offences and being on bail in those cases, the petitioner still indulged in similar offences, which *prima facie* shows that he has misused the concession of bail that has already been granted to him. He, thus, does not deserve the concession of anticipatory bail.

7. Consequently, the present petition is ***dismissed***.

(VINOD S. BHARDWAJ)
JUDGE

20.05.2026

Mangal Singh

Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No
Whether reportable : Yes/No