

CRM-M-31734-2025

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IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

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CRM-M-31734-2025
Decided on:23.03.2026

Satnam Singh

.....Petitioner

Versus

State of U.T. Chandigarh

.....Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY VASHISTH

Present: None for the petitioner.

Mr. Rajiv Vij, A.P.P., U.T. Chandigarh.

SANJAY VASHISTH, J.

1. Prayer in this petition, filed under Section 482 of the BNSS, 2023, 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 (s)	FIR No.	Date	Section(s)	Police Station
Satnam Singh	0044	06.03.2025	316(2), 318(4),336(3), 338, 340(2), 61(2) of BNS and Section 24 of Immigration Act	Sector 36 Chandigarh

2. After hearing learned counsel for the petitioner on 22.07.2025, following was recorded:

- “1.xxx
2. At the very outset, it is contended that in CRM-M-18236-2025 (P-5), it has been clearly recorded that an amount of ₹62,05,000/- was found credited in the bank account of main accused, namely Manpreet Singh Khurana. On that basis, the concession of anticipatory bail was extended to co-accused,



Jaskanwar Singh, vide order dated 28.04.2025 in CRM-M-18236-2025.

It is submitted in the present petition that the petitioner is neither involved in the alleged incident nor is there any evidence of any amount being deposited into his bank account. In fact, the allegations levelled in FIR No. 20 dated 31.01.2025, registered at Police Station Sector 36, Chandigarh, and the subsequently registered FIR herein, are almost identical. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the petitioner is ready and willing to cooperate with the investigation and shall join the same as and when required. Accordingly, he prays for the grant of anticipatory bail.

3. *Notice of motion.*

4. *On advance notice, Mr. Rajiv Vij, A.P.P., U.T. Chandigarh puts in appearance on behalf of the respondent-U.T. He prays for some time to file status report.*

5. *Adjourned to 30.10.2025.*

6. *In the meanwhile, the petitioner is directed to join the investigation as and when required to do so by the Investigating Agency. In the event of his arrest, the petitioner shall be released on interim bail, subject to his furnishing bail bonds to the satisfaction of the Arresting Officer. The 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.).*

7. *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. Learned counsel for the respondent–U.T. argues that co-accused Manpreet Khurana, in whose account an amount of ₹62,05,000/- was found credited, was arrested during the investigation; however, after



interrogation and joining the investigation, he was released on regular bail.

4. It is further submitted that petitioner is similarly situated and, in fact, being a partner of the main accused, Manpreet Singh Khurana, and having received approximately ₹91 lakhs in his bank account, is not entitled to be released on bail. It is also pointed out that, in pursuance of the directions issued by this Court, when the petitioner approached the Investigating Officer, he did not fully cooperate and failed to hand over his passport, which remains in his possession.

5. Referring to paragraph No. 5 of the status report dated 17.03.2026, learned counsel further points out that petitioner is involved in four other similar cases wherein analogous allegations have been levelled against him. For reference, such cases are detailed as under:

“(i) FIR No. 20 dated 31.1.2025 under Section 409, 420, 467, 468, 471, 120 IPC and Section 24 of Immigration Act, registered at Police Station 36, Chandigarh.

(ii) FIR No. 176 dated 13.08.2025 under Sections 318 (4), 61 (2), BHARTIYA NYAYA SANHITA and Section 24 Immigration Act, registered at Police Station 36, Chandigarh.

(iii) FIR No. 144 dated 25.06.2025 under Section 318(4) of the BHARTIYA NYAYA SANHITA and Section 24 Immigration Act, registered at Police Station 36, Chandigarh.

(iv) FIR No. 123 dated 27.08.2025 under Section 316(2), 318(4) of the BHARTIYA NYAYA SANITA registered at Police Station City, Morinda, Rupnagar.”

6. Mr. Rajiv Vij, APP, U.T., Chandigarh, also points out that in FIR No. 176 dated 13.08.2025 (at Sr. No. 2 referred to hereinabove), anticipatory bail petition filed by the petitioner, as well as that of his co-accused Manpreet Singh, has already been dismissed. Learned counsel for respondent-U.T. refers to the order passed in CRM-M-56909-2025 (qua Satnam Singh) and order dated 15.01.2026 passed in CRM-M-16-2026 (qua Manpreet Singh Khurana).

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7. Previously, when the petition was listed on 19.03.2025, proxy counsel appeared on behalf of Mr. Kamaldeep, Advocate, and sought an adjournment; accordingly, matter was adjourned and has now been listed for arguments today. Today, however, none has appeared on behalf of the petitioner.

8. Considering the factual aspects and the circumstances in their entirety, as reflected in the status report dated 17.03.2026 and as argued by Mr. Rajiv Vij, this Court does not find that petitioner is entitled to any extraordinary relief. Accordingly, present petition is dismissed, and the Investigating Officer is directed to proceed in accordance with law without any delay.

(SANJAY VASHISTH)
JUDGE

March 23,2026
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Whether Speaking/Reasoned: ~~YES~~/NO
Whether Reportable: ~~YES~~/NO