



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

105

CRM-M-52861-2025 (O&M)

Date of decision: 27.03.2026

Lovepreet Singh

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AMAN CHAUDHARY

Present : Mr. G.P.S. Pathania, Advocate for the petitioner

Mr. Jasjit Singh, DAG Punjab

AMAN CHAUDHARY, J. (ORAL)

1. The present petition has been filed under Section 482 BNSS for grant of anticipatory bail to the petitioner in case FIR No.52, dated 15.05.2025, under Section(s) 21(1) of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, read with Sections 132, 121 of BNS (Section 221 BNS added later on), registered at Police Station Taragarh, District Pathankot.

2. On 18.09.2025, this Court had passed the following order:-

“1. On a call given by the High Court Bar Association, lawyers are observing strike today and not appearing in the Court(s).

2. Present petition has been filed by the petitioner, seeking grant of anticipatory bail in case bearing FIR No.52, dated 15.05.2025, under Section(s) 21(1) of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, read with Sections 132, 121 of BNS, registered at Police Station Taragarh, District Pathankot.

3. As per the allegations, on the evening of 14.05.2025, checking of mining at the outer passage of crusher zone was carried out by the officials of the Mining Department. During the operation, the owners/drivers of the vehicles abandoned their vehicles loaded with sand and gravels at the spot and fled away from there. The required information was given to the District Mining Officer, Pathankot. Subsequently, certain revenue officials also arrived at the scene of incident. Although the vehicle, bearing registration No.PB-06BH-9010 which was being driven by the petitioner, is mentioned in the

list of vehicles allegedly involved in mining activity, but it was shown to have been recovered on 10.06.2025, from the area of Amritsar, whereas the alleged mining check took place in Pathankot, which is approximately 100 kilometres away from Amritsar.

4. Notice of motion for 12.11.2025, to enable learned State counsel to file status report in the matter.

5. Meanwhile, petitioner shall not be arrested. However, issue of joining of investigation by the petitioner would be examined on the next date of hearing, after reviewing the status report, which is yet to be filed by learned State counsel.”

3. Learned counsel submits that in pursuance of the afore-mentioned order, the petitioner has not only joined investigation but also fully cooperated with the investigating agency. He further submits that in case the investigating agency requires the petitioner to appear, he shall make himself available without demur.

4. Learned State counsel on instructions from ASI Narinder Singh affirms the factum of joining the investigation by the petitioner on 05.10.2025 and cooperating with the investigating agency. He also submits that at this stage, the petitioner is not required for further custodial interrogation.

5. In view of the above and without expressing any opinion on the merits of the case, anticipatory bail petition filed by the petitioner is allowed and the order dated 18.09.2025 granting interim bail to him, is hereby made absolute, subject to compliance of conditions as specified under Section 482(2) BNSS.

6. However, it is made clear that if the petitioner fails to join and cooperate with the investigating agency as and when required, the State would be at liberty to move an application for cancellation of the present anticipatory bail granted to him.

(AMAN CHAUDHARY)
JUDGE

27.03.2026
M.Kamra

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