

2026:PHHC:009196

204 (2nd case)IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT
CHANDIGARH

CRM-M-60137-2025

Gourav Babbar

....Petitioner

versus

State of Punjab

....Respondent

Date of Decision: January 22, 2026

Date of Uploading: January 22, 2026

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUMEET GOEL

Present: Mr. Vaibhav Narang, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Jaypreet Singh, DAG Punjab.

SUMEET GOEL, J. (ORAL)

Present petition has been filed under Section 482 of the Bhartiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (for short 'BNSS') for grant of concession of anticipatory bail to the petitioner, in case FIR No.133 dated 05.08.2025, under Sections 306 and 316(4) of the BNS, 2023 (Section 238 of BNS added later on), registered at Police Station Civil Lines, Amritsar.

2. On 03.11.2025, the following order was passed:

"Apprehending his arrest in FIR No.133 dated 05.08.2025 registered for offences punishable under Section 306 and 316(4) of the BNS 2023 (Section 238 of BNS 2023 added later on) at Police Station Civil Lines, District Amritsar; 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 is a man with clean antecedents; the main accused namely Rahul Khosla is on regular bail; assuming arguendo, the prosecution version available at this stage is taken to be correct, the petitioner cannot be ascribed the role of having committed any offence in league with the said accused Rahul Khosla & the petitioner is willing to join investigation and cooperate therein.

Notice of motion.

On the strength of advance notice; Mr. Amit Kumar Goyal, Addl. AG, Punjab has entered appearance on behalf of the respondent-State of Punjab.

Adjourned to 01.12.2025.

To be heard alongwith CRM-M-60464-2025.

The petitioner is directed to appear before the Investigating Officer on 10.11.2025 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 stated that pursuant to the order dated 03.11.2025, the petitioner has indeed joined investigation, but his custodial interrogation is required for effecting recovery of money etc.

4. Having heard learned counsel for the parties and upon perusal of the record; especially in view of the factum of the petitioner having joined investigation and custodial interrogation of the petitioner is being sought only for effecting money in question etc., the interim order dated 03.11.2025 passed by this Court is made absolute, subject to the conditions as enumerated under Section 482(2) of BNSS, 2023.

5. Petition stands allowed, accordingly.

6. 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.

7. 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, 2023 or upon showing any other sufficient cause.

8. Needless to say that anything observed herein above shall not

be construed to be an opinion on the merits of the case.
9. Pending application(s), if any, shall also stand disposed of.

(SUMEET GOEL)
JUDGE

January 22, 2026
mahavir

Whether speaking/reasoned: Yes/No

Whether reportable: Yes/No