

CRM-M-65821-2025

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IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

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CRM-M-65821-2025
Decided on: 09.02.2026

Sandeep Singh alias Ghota

.....Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

.....Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY VASHISTH

Present: Mr. Rajbinder Singh Sidhu, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Vinay Malhotra, DAG Punjab

SANJAY VASHISTH, J. (ORAL)

1. Prayer in this petition, filed under Section 482 of the BNSS, 2023 (earlier Section 438 Cr.P.C.), is for grant of anticipatory bail to the petitioner, who has been booked in a criminal case arising out of FIR No.209 dated 19.10.2025, under Sections 61, 78(2) of Punjab Excise Act, 1914, at PS Jagraon, District Ludhiana.

2. On 21.11.2025, following order was passed:

“(i) Prayer in this petition, filed under Section 482 of the BNSS, 2023 (earlier Section 438 Cr.P.C.), 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	District
Sandeep Singh @ Ghota, aged about 24 years	209	19.10.2025	61, 78(2) of Punjab Excise Act, 1914	Jagraon	Ludhiana

(ii) Learned counsel for the petitioner inter alia, contends, that petitioner has



been named in the present case solely on the basis of information allegedly provided by a secret informant, whereas petitioner is neither the registered owner of the car, bearing registration No.PB-02 AK-0018, nor he was driving the said vehicle. Apart from the alleged secret information, no other evidence is available with the prosecution to implicate the petitioner.

(iii) It is further submitted that, as far as recovery is concerned, police have already recovered total 67 bottles (750 ml each) of the alleged illicit liquor. Therefore, custodial interrogation of the petitioner would serve no meaningful purpose. Moreover, petitioner is ready to join the investigation and fully cooperate, if protected from arrest by this Court. Thus, prays for grant of concession of anticipatory bail to the petitioner in the present case.

(iv) Notice of motion.

(v) On advance notice, Mr. Neeraj Madaan, Sr. DAG, Punjab, puts in appearance on behalf of the respondent – State, and seeks some time to file status report in the matter.

(vi) Adjourned to 09.02.2026.

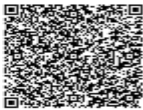
(vii) Meanwhile, the petitioner is directed to join the investigation as and when required to do so by the Investigating Agency. In the event of his arrest, the petitioner shall be released on ad-interim bail, subject to his furnishing bail bonds to the satisfaction of the Arresting Officer. The petitioner shall also abide by all the conditions laid down under Section 482(2) of BNSS, 2023 (earlier Section 438(2) Cr.P.C.).

(viii) 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 petitioner submits that in pursuance to the directions issued by this Court vide order dated 21.11.2025, the petitioner has joined investigation.

4. Learned State counsel on instructions, confirms the said averment made by counsel for the petitioner of joining the investigation by the petitioner on 07.12.2025, and submits that as of now, custodial interrogation of the petitioner is not required for the purpose of investigation.



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5. Heard learned counsel for the parties.
6. Since, petitioner has already joined the investigation and custodial interrogation is no more required; ad-interim bail order dated 21.11.2025 passed by this Court is hereby made absolute. Accordingly, present petition is allowed.
7. The petitioner shall continue to join the investigation as and when required to do so and abide by all the terms and conditions laid down under Section 482(2) of BNSS, 2023.
8. However, present order would be subject to the submission of his passport to the Investigating Agency or to Court concerned, if she possesses, within a period of one week from today. Otherwise, he would submit an affidavit, disclosing the fact that he does not possess any passport.
9. It is clarified that in case, aforesaid condition is not complied with, this order would be considered as *non est* automatically.

09.02.2026
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(SANJAY VASHISTH)
JUDGE

Whether Speaking/Reasoned: YES/~~NO~~
Whether Reportable: ~~YES~~/NO