

2026.PHHC.026859



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

146

CRM-M-66602-2025

Date of decision: 19th February, 2026

Reetu

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE MANISHA BATRA

Present: Mr. Deepender Singh, Advocate for the petitioner.
Mr. Durgesh Garg, Assistant Advocate General, Punjab.

MANISHA BATRA, J (ORAL):-

The present petition has been filed under Section 482 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (for short 'BNSS') by the petitioner seeking grant of anticipatory bail in case bearing FIR No. 201 dated 01.11.2025 registered under Section 22 of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substance Act, 1985 (for short 'NDPS Act') at Police Station Fatehgarh Sahib, District Fatehgarh Sahib.

2. As per the allegations, on 01.11.2025, the accused Manpreet Singh @ Prince was apprehended by a police party. While seeing the police officials, he had thrown a polythene by taking the same out of left pocket of his jeans and had tried to flee. On opening the same, 70 loose intoxicant tablets were found contained therein, which were taken into possession. The accused Manpreet Singh was formally arrested. On interrogation, he suffered disclosure statement to the effect that the recovered contraband was supplied by the present petitioner and her accomplice namely Sikhni Devi for the

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purpose of selling the same to migrant labourers. The petitioner and Sikhni Devi were nominated as accused. Offence under Section 29 of NDPS Act was added. The accused Sikhni Devi was arrested on 08.11.2025. Apprehending her arrest, the petitioner moved an application for grant of pre-arrest bail which was dismissed by the Court of learned Additional Sessions Judge, Fatehgrah Sahib vide order dated 14.11.2025.

3. It is argued by learned counsel for the petitioner that she has been falsely implicated in this case on the basis of disclosure statement of the co-accused which cannot be considered to be admissible in evidence. She is ready to join the investigation. Her custodial interrogation is not required. She has been extended benefit of bail in another case as registered against him. With these broad submissions, it is urged that the petition deserves to be allowed.

4. *Per contra*, learned State counsel has argued that the allegations against the petitioner are serious in nature. There are chances of her committing similar offences if extended benefit of bail. Therefore, it is stressed that the petition does not deserve to be allowed.

5. This Court has heard learned counsel for the parties at considerable length.

6. The petitioner is alleged to have supplied 70 intoxicant tablets to the co-accused Manpreet Singh from whom the recovery of the same was effected. The petitioner has been nominated on the basis of disclosure statement of the co-accused. It is on the basis of evidence to be adduced during trial that the allegations as levelled against the petitioner are to be proved and not at this stage. She has not been involved in any other case of similar nature.

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Given the nature of the allegations as levelled against the petitioner and the circumstances peculiar to the case, this Court is of the considered opinion that no case for pre-trial incarceration of the petitioner is made out. It is well settled that the bail is the rule and jail is an exception. Taking into consideration the above discussed facts, this Court is of the considered opinion that the petition deserves to be allowed. Accordingly, the same is allowed and the petitioner is ordered to be admitted on bail. The petitioner is directed to appear before the Investigating/Arresting Officer to join investigation within ten days from today and subsequent also as and when required. In the event of her arrest, the Investigating/Arresting Officer shall release the petitioner on interim bail on furnishing personal/surety bonds to his/her satisfaction. The petitioner shall also abide by the conditions as envisaged under Section 482(2) of BNS.

7. It is further clarified that the observations made above are only for the purpose of consideration of application for pre-arrest bail and the same shall not in any manner influence the trial. The trial Court shall consider the case on its merits and without being influenced by this order.

8. Since the main petition has been allowed, pending application if any is rendered infructuous.

[MANISHA BATRA]
JUDGE

19th February, 2026
Parveen Sharma

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|-------------------------------|---|----------|
| 1. Whether speaking/ reasoned | : | Yes / No |
| 2. Whether reportable | : | Yes / No |