

**CRM-M-67605-2025****1****IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH****144****CRM-M-67605-2025****Decided on :16.03.2026**

Sandeep Singh alias Gora

. . . Petitioner(s)

Versus

State of Punjab

. . . Respondent(s)

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY VASHISTH

Present: Mr. Amardeep Singh Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Iqbalpreet Singh, AAG, Punjab.

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SANJAY VASHISTH, J. (Oral)

1. Present petition has been filed under Section 483 of BNSS, seeking regular bail in case FIR No.99 dated 23.06.2017, under Sections 465, 468, 471, 420, 170 IPC, registered at Police Station Jhabhal, District Tarn Taran.

2. FIR in the present case was registered against the petitioner, Sandeep Singh @ Gora, upon receiving information that he, by dressing up in a police uniform, lured people by promising to get their children recruited in the police and thereby cheated them. It is alleged that even today, if a raid is conducted, he can be apprehended along with the police uniform worn by him.

3. Learned counsel for the petitioner argues that there is no substance in the case and that petitioner has been falsely implicated. The challan in the matter was submitted on 27.04.2021. At the first instance,

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petitioner had been released on bail by the learned ASJ, Tarn Taran, vide order dated 22.08.2017 (P-2). However, he absented from Court on 20.09.2022, following which his bail was cancelled.

Subsequently, petitioner was again granted bail on 31.03.2023, but he absented on 29.08.2023, and his bail was once again cancelled. He was thereafter declared a Proclaimed Offender on 16.09.2024. Petitioner was arrested on 14.07.2025 and has remained in judicial custody since then.

Counsel for the petitioner further submits that present case was registered in 2017, and petitioner had been regularly appearing in Court until his first absence in September 2022. The delay in trial proceedings compelled the petitioner to attend to the serious health condition of his mother, who was suffering from gallbladder ailments. Considering that the petitioner is in custody for a period of last eight months and is willing to provide an undertaking not to abscond in the future, he prays for grant of regular bail.

4. Learned State counsel submits that petitioner was arrested after a gap of two years, following his declaration as a Proclaimed Offender. Learned State counsel further submits that petitioner has a history of habitual absconding from Court proceedings, having repeatedly failed to appear despite being granted bail on earlier occasions. In view of these facts, petitioner does not deserve any concession, and the present petition is liable to be dismissed.

5. I have heard learned counsel for the parties and perused the paper-book along with the documents appended thereto.

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6. Considering the fact that the petitioner is in judicial custody for a period of last eight months, trial is still at an initial stage with no substantial evidence examined, and petitioner has undertaken to cooperate with the Court and provide assurances against future absconding, this Court finds no substantial justification to continue his detention. Further, the petitioner has provided a reasonable explanation for his earlier absences, which were on account of attending to urgent family matters, and he has otherwise clean antecedents.

Thus, without commenting on the merits of the case, present petition is allowed . Petitioner is ordered to be released on bail, subject to his furnishing bail/surety bonds to the satisfaction of the learned trial Court/ Chief Judicial Magistrate/Illaq Magistrate/ Duty Magistrate concerned, if not required in any other case.

7. Any of the discussion done and recorded hereabove, shall not be construed as an expression of opinion on the facts of the case. Therefore, trial Court is expected to decide the case by taking an independent view, on the basis of evidence available on record, as expeditiously as possible in accordance with law.

8. Petition stands disposed of.

(SANJAY VASHISTH)
JUDGE

16.03.2026***Rashmi***

Whether speaking/reasoned: *Yes/No*
Whether Reportable: *Yes/No*