



IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

212

CRM-M-67517-2025

Date of decision: 20.01.2026

Satnam Singh

... Petitioner

Vs.

State of Punjab

... Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE MANISHA BATRA

Present: Mr. Amit Arora, Advocate for the petitioner.

Ms. Sakshi Bakshi, AAG, Punjab.

Manisha Batra, J. (Oral).

1. The instant petition is the third petition filed under Section 482 of the BNSS seeking grant of anticipatory bail to the petitioner in case arising out of FIR No.67 dated 19.08.2023 registered under Section 21 of Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 (for short “NDPS”) and Section 25 of Arms Act, 1959 (Offences under Sections 21(c), 27A and 29 of NDPS Act added later on) at Police Station Sarai Amant Khan, District Tarn Taran.

2. As per the allegations, on 19.08.2023, on the basis of a secret information, the accused Lovepreet Singh @ Monu and Akashdeep Singh @ Sajjan were apprehended and recovery of 1 KG 290 Grams of heroin alongwith drug money of Rs.30 lakhs, one 32 bore pistol, 2 magazines and 8 live cartridges was effected from their conscious possession. They were formally arrested. The recovered contraband was taken into custody by the Police. On interrogation, the accused Lovepreet Singh suffered disclosure



statement about involvement of the petitioner in the subject crime and on the basis of the same, the petitioner was nominated as such. Apprehending his arrest, he moved application for grant of pre-arrest bail. Investigation proceedings were initiated. The petitioner evaded his apprehension. Proceedings under Section 82 of Cr.P.C. were initiated against him and he was declared as proclaimed offender vide order dated 19.01.2024.

3. As revealed from the record, the petitioner challenged the order dated 19.02.2024 by filing the petition before this Court which was allowed vide order dated 11.11.2025 and the order declaring him as a proclaimed person was ordered to be quashed subject to moving application for anticipatory bail or regular bail. He moved an application for grant of anticipatory bail which has been dismissed by the Court of Ld. Additional Sessions Judge, Special Court, Tarn Taran vide order dated 27.11.2025.

4. It is argued by learned counsel for the petitioner that he has been falsely implicated in this case. The order declaring him as a proclaimed offender has been quashed by this Court. No recovery is to be effected from him. He has been nominated on the basis of the disclosure statement of the co-accused which cannot be considered to be admissible in evidence. He is on bail in other 02 cases registered against him. His custodial interrogation is not required. He has already joined investigation in this case on 08.12.2025 even as per the status report also. It is, thus, argued that the petition deserves to be allowed.

5. Per contra, learned State counsel while relying upon the contents of the reply filed by the State and while affirming that the petitioner has already joined investigation, has nonetheless argued that keeping in



views the gravity of the allegations levelled against him and his past act and conduct, the petitioner does not deserve to be extended benefit of anticipatory bail.

6. The petitioner had been nominated in this case on the basis of the disclosure statement of the co-accused. The order declaring him as a proclaimed person has since been set aside. The petitioner has already joined investigation on 08.12.2025. Given the nature of the allegations and the above discussed fact, this Court is of the considered opinion that the pre-trial incarceration of the petitioner is not required. The rigors of Section 37 of the NDPS Act are not attracted qua the petitioner. As such a case is made out for extending benefit of anticipatory bail to the petitioner. Accordingly, the petition is allowed and the petitioner is ordered to be admitted to bail subject to the condition that the petitioner shall surrender before the Investigating Officer/Arresting Officer within a period of 10 days from today and shall join investigation within that period and also subsequently, as and when required and subject to furnishing personal as well as surety bonds to the satisfaction of the Investigating/Arresting Officer. He will also not tamper with any evidence, will not pressurize, induce, extend threats to any witness acquainted with the facts and circumstances of the case, will not leave the country, during investigation and trial of the case, except after seeking permission from the trial Court, shall disclose the details of his Aadhar Card No., Passport No., cellphone No., while furnishing bond to the learned trial Court and shall also abide by all the terms and conditions as envisaged under Section 482(2) of BNSS.

7. In the event of there being any FIR/complaint lodged against



the petitioners, it shall be open to the respondent to seek redressal by filing an application seeking cancellation of bail.

8. It is, however, clarified that the observations made hereinabove shall not be construed as an expression of opinion on the merits of the case and shall not influence the outcome of the trial.

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

20.01.2026

Amit Sharma

**(MANISHA BATRA)
JUDGE**

Whether speaking/reasoned :
Whether reportable :

Yes/No
Yes/No