



**205 IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
CHANDIGARH**

CRM-M-68654-2025 (O&M)

Date of Decision: 13.02.2026

ANGREJ SINGH @ GHORA @ GHODA

...Petitioner

V/S

STATE OF PUNJAB AND ANOTHER

...Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE SHALINI SINGH NAGPAL

Present: Mr. Lovish Arora Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Sukhbeer Singh, DAG Punjab.

SHALINI SINGH NAGPAL J. (Oral)

1. Petitioner seeks regular bail in FIR No.70 dated 19.07.2025 under Section 74 of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (B.N.S.), 2023 and Section 8 of The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act (Amended), 2012, 2019 Police Station Kabarwala, Sri Muktsar Sahib.

This is the first petition for regular bail.

2. FIR was recorded on statement of 'M' aged 13 years, who stated that she was studying in 7th grade in the government school and they were four siblings. On 12.07.2025, at about 07:30 P.M., her mother sent her to Sunita Rani daughter of Tarlochan Singh for getting her new suits stitched. Grandmother and mother of Sunita Rani told her that she was not at home. When she was returning home through the narrow street outside Sunita's house, Angrej Singh alias Ghoda son of Gahna Singh met her and offered to drop her home. She told him that she would go home herself upon which he grabbed her arms from behind and touched her backside. Out of fear, she ran away from the spot. She reached home



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and narrated the incident to her mother who informed her father. They approached the village Sarpanch who assured that the matter would be settled in Panchayat but no resolution was reached.

3. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that petitioner was behind bars from 20.07.2025. He was neighbour of the minor prosecutrix. There was seven days delay in lodging the case. Petitioner has been falsely implicated on account of previous dispute over parking of motorcycle. His antecedents were clean. Therefore, he deserved to be enlarged on bail.

4. Status report by way of affidavit of Mr. Harbans Singh, PPS, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Sub-division Lambi, District Sri Muktsar Sahib on behalf of respondent No.1-State has been filed. The same is made part of the record. Learned State counsel opposes the prayer for regular bail stating that the victim, in her statement under Section 183 of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (B.N.S.S.), 2023 deposed against the petitioner. She informs that out of 17 witnesses, only one was examined so far.

5. Notice issued to the victim/respondent No. 2 has been received back served through her father but none has appeared to contest the petition on her behalf.

6. Antecedents of the petitioner are clean. He is not stated to be involved in any other case. Investigation of the case has been completed and challan had been presented. Only 01 out of 17 prosecution witnesses has been examined. As such, trial is likely to take time to conclude.

Further detention of the petitioner, who is in judicial custody w.e.f.



20.07.2025 is not warranted. In view of the well established principle of law that “*bail is the rule and jail an exception*” the petition is allowed. Petitioner-Angrej Singh @ Ghora @ Gohda is ordered to be released on regular bail subject to his furnishing requisite bail bonds/surety bonds to the satisfaction of learned trial Court/Illaqa Magistrate/Chief Judicial Magistrate.

7. Pending CRM(s), if any, are also disposed of accordingly.

13.02.2026

Ajay Goswami

(SHALINI SINGH NAGPAL)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned	Yes/No
Whether reportable	Yes/No