



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

**CRM-M-15879-2026 (O&M)
DECIDED ON: 24.03.2026**

DHARMINDER @ DHERMENDER

.....PETITIONER

VERSUS

STATE OF HARYANA AND ANOTHER

.....RESPONDENTS

CORAM: HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE MANDEEP PANNU

Present: Ms. Sushma Varma Syal, Advocate
for the petitioner.

MANDEEP PANNU, J (ORAL)

1. The present is the first petition filed under Section 482 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (akin to Section 438 Cr.P.C.) for grant of anticipatory bail to the petitioner in case FIR No. 0220 dated 28.11.2025 registered under Sections 316(2) and 318(4) of BNS, 2023 (akin to Sections 406 and 420 IPC) and Sections 10 and 24 of the Immigration Act, 2025 at Police Station Sadhaura, District Yamuna Nagar, Haryana.

2. Briefly stated, the facts of the case are that the FIR has been registered on the complaint of Gurpreet Singh alleging that the petitioner, along with co-accused, induced him on the pretext of sending him to America and assured him of a visa and employment. It is alleged that the petitioner and other accused persons extracted a huge amount from the complainant. The complainant was initially sent to Dubai and thereafter made to travel through various countries including Guyana, Brazil, Bolivia,



Peru, Ecuador and Colombia through illegal means. It is further alleged that he was apprehended by authorities and remained in custody abroad. The complainant has alleged that despite paying substantial amounts, he was neither sent to America nor was his money returned.

3. It is contended on behalf of the petitioner that he has been falsely implicated in the present case and the allegations are concocted. It is submitted that there is no agreement or documentary proof regarding payment of such a huge amount and even the source of the alleged cash amount has not been disclosed. It is further contended that the amount of ₹90,000/- allegedly transferred in the account of petitioner's wife was a borrowed amount and not connected with the alleged transaction. It is argued that there is delay in lodging the FIR and the petitioner apprehends his arrest at the instance of the complainant and his family.

4. Notice of motion.

5. On the asking of the Court, Mr. Sushil Bhardwaj, Addl. A.G. Haryana accepts notice on behalf of the respondent-State and Mr. Ankit Chowdhri, Advocate has put in appearance on behalf of respondent No.2 and filed his Power of Attorney, which is taken on record. Learned State counsel, assisted by counsel for the complainant-respondent No.2, has submitted that the petitioner along with other accused persons extracted an amount of about ₹45,00,000/- from the complainant on the pretext of sending him to America. It is further submitted that an amount of ₹90,000/- was transferred in the account of Sonia Rani and substantial cash amount, stated to be around ₹60,00,000/- or more, was also paid to the petitioner and co-accused persons at different times. It is contended that serious allegations of cheating and illegal immigration racket are made against the petitioner.



6. After hearing learned counsel for the parties and perusing the record, this Court is of the view that serious allegations have been levelled against the petitioner regarding extraction of huge amount, stated to be around ₹45,00,000/- and more, from the complainant on the pretext of sending him abroad. The nature of allegations and the manner in which the transaction is stated to have taken place, partly through bank transfer and largely in cash, require thorough investigation. The exact mode of transaction, role of the petitioner and other accused, and the trail of money paid from time to time are matters which need to be properly verified. In such circumstances, custodial interrogation of the petitioner cannot be ruled out at this stage.

7. Accordingly, finding no merit in the present petition, the same is hereby dismissed.

8. However, it is made clear that nothing stated hereinabove shall be construed as an expression on the merits of the case.

9. All pending miscellaneous application(s), if any, stands disposed of.

24.03.2026

Poonam Negi

**(MANDEEP PANNU)
JUDGE**

*Whether speaking/reasoned
Whether reportable*

*Yes/No
Yes/No*