

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

**(144)**

**CRM-M-26170-2026  
DATE OF DECISION: 11.05.2026**

Panna @ Chanchal

.....Petitioner

**VERSUS**

State of Punjab

.....Respondents

**CORAM HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUBHAS MEHLA**

Present Mr.Suram Singh Rana Advocate, for the petitioner.  
Mr.Anup Singh, AAG, Punjab.

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**SUBHAS MEHLA, J (ORAL)**

1. Present petition has been filed under Section 528 of the BNSS, 2023, praying for quashing of order dated 18.12.2012 (Annexure P-5) passed by learned Judicial Magistrate Ist Class, Ropar, whereby the bail of the petitioner was cancelled and bonds were forfeited and non bailable warrants of arrest were issued against him and also the orders dated 14.01.2013 (Annexure P-7) and 02.02.2013 (Annexure P-8), whereby proclamation was issued against the petitioner in case FIR No.0103 dated 15.08.2008, under Sections 148, 382 IPC, registered at Police Station Kurali, District Ropar, Punjab.

2. Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that the present FIR was initially registered against unknown persons and the petitioner was not named therein and has been implicated subsequently only on the basis of alleged disclosure/confessional statement recorded while in custody in another case, without any independent recovery from him; that the petitioner had earlier been granted concession of regular bail by the Ld. Trial Court as



well as by this Hon'ble Court and his non-appearance before the Ld. Trial Court was neither intentional nor deliberate, but occurred due to bona fide misunderstanding on account of wrong legal advice given by his previous counsel, who informed him that the case already stood decided and his sentence had been treated as undergone; that after his marriage, the petitioner shifted to Bahadurgarh for work and residence and no notice or warrant was ever served upon him at the changed address; that the petitioner has been wrongly declared proclaimed offender because he was never served effectively at his new address where he was residing; that the petitioner is now ready and willing to appear before the Ld. Trial Court and join the proceedings. Hence, prayer for quashing of impugned orders is made.

3. Notice of motion.

4. In pursuance of advance notice, Mr. Anup Singh, AAG, Punjab, appears and opposes the petition by submitting that the FIR against the present petitioner was registered on 15.08.2008 and during trial, he had been declared proclaimed offender twice.

4. Heard.

5. In view of the facts and circumstances of the present case, this Court does not find any sufficient or convincing ground to interfere with the impugned order declaring the petitioner as 'proclaimed offender' particularly when the petitioner remained absent from the proceedings for a considerable period of 13 years and failed to diligently pursue the matter before the Ld. Trial Court. The explanation furnished by the petitioner



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regarding his non-appearance on account of alleged wrong legal advice cannot be accepted as a valid justification to quash the proceedings initiated under Section 82 Cr.P.C.

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

11.05.2026  
mamta

(SUBHAS MEHLA)  
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned  
Whether reportable

Yes/No  
Yes/No