



IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. _____ OF 2026
(@ SLP(CRL.) NO. 5023/2026)

PREM SINGH

Appellant(s)

VERSUS

STATE OF PUNJAB

Respondent(s)

O R D E R

Leave granted.

This appeal challenges the judgment and order dated 11.02.2026 passed by the High Court of Punjab and Haryana at Chandigarh in CRM-M No. 73059 of 2025.

Apprehending arrest in connection with the crime registered pursuant to FIR No. 84/2025 dated 05.11.2025 lodged with Sadar Budhlada Police Station, District Mansa in respect of offences punishable under -Sections 115(2), 118(1), 115(2), 191(3) and 190 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 [in short, "BNS"], the appellant preferred an application before the High Court seeking anticipatory bail.

Said application for anticipatory bail having been rejected by the High Court vide impugned order dated 11.02.2026, the instant appeal has been preferred.

Vide order dated 23.03.2026, this Court granted interim protection in favour of the appellant and observed:

"Issue notice to the respondent, returnable on 20.04.2026.

Ms. Baani Khanna, learned counsel accepts notice for the respondent.

Till the next date of hearing, no coercive steps shall be taken as against the petitioner in relation to FIR No.84/2025 dated 05.11.2025 registered at Police StationSadar Budhlada, District Mansa provided the petitioner cooperates in the investigation."

We have heard learned counsel for the appellant and learned counsel for the respondent-State.

Learned counsel for the appellant submitted that pursuant to the interim protection granted by this Court vide order dated 23.03.2026, the appellant has joined the investigation and the wooden stick has been recovered from the appellant herein. Another accused may be absconding but since the appellant has been cooperating with the investigation, the relief of anticipatory bail may be granted to him by making the interim order absolute.

Learned counsel for the appellant also submitted that the appellant is a private veterinary doctor and is running a clinic.

Per contra, learned counsel for the respondent-State submitted that there is no merit in this appeal and hence, the same may be dismissed.

Considering the circumstances on record, in our view, the appellant is entitled to the relief of anticipatory bail sought by him.

We, therefore, allow this appeal and set aside the impugned order passed by the High Court dated 11.02.2026.

We direct that in the event of arrest of the appellant, the Arresting Officer shall release the appellant on bail, subject to furnishing cash security in the sum of Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand only) with two like sureties.

It is directed that the appellant shall extend complete cooperation in the ensuing investigation. The appellant shall not misuse his liberty and shall not in any way influence the witnesses or tamper with the material on record.

Any infraction of the conditions may entail in cancellation of bail granted to the appellant herein.

With the aforesaid directions, the Criminal Appeal is allowed.

.....J.
(B.V. NAGARATHNA)

.....J.
(UJJAL BHUYAN)

NEW DELHI;
APRIL 20, 2026

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A
R E C O R D O F P R O C E E D I N G S

Petition(s) for Special Leave to Appeal (Crl.) No(s). 5023/2026
[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 11-02-2026
in CRM-M No. 73059/2025 passed by the High Court of Punjab &
Haryana at Chandigarh]

PREM SINGH

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

STATE OF PUNJAB

Respondent(s)

(IA No. 86248/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE IMPUGNED
JUDGMENT

IA No. 86250/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.)

Date : 20-04-2026 This matter was called on for hearing today.

CORAM : HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE B.V. NAGARATHNA
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE UJJAL BHUYAN

For Petitioner(s) Mr. Chiranshu Rattan, Adv.
Mr. Ram Krishan Rana, Adv.
Mr. Mohit Thakur, Adv.
Mr. Akash Rana, Adv.
Ms. Rishika Goel, Adv.
Ms. Mushkan Mangla, Adv.
Mr. Abhishek Upadhyay, Adv.
Mr. Ravi Kumar Tomar, AOR

For Respondent(s) Ms. Baani Khanna, AOR
Mr. Robin Singh, Adv.
Mr. Kapil Balwani, Adv.
Ms. Komal Thakkar, Adv.

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following
O R D E R

1. Leave granted.
2. The Criminal Appeal is allowed in terms of the signed order.
3. Pending application(s), if any, shall stand disposed of.

(RADHA SHARMA)
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(DIVYA BABBAR)
COURT MASTER (NSH)

(Signed order is placed on the file)