



ITEM NO.5

COURT NO.7

SECTION II-B

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 for Special Leave to Appeal (Crl.) No.5267/2026

[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 20-02-2026 in CRMM No. 50517/2025 passed by the High Court of Punjab & Haryana at Chandigarh]

GOURAV KUMAR @ GOURAV @ GORA

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

STATE OF PUNJAB

Respondent(s)

(IA No. 89988/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE IMPUGNED JUDGMENT IA No. 89985/2026 - PERMISSION TO FILE ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS/FACTS/ANNEXURES)

Date : 24-04-2026 This matter was called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE J.B. PARDIWALA
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE K.V. VISWANATHAN

For Petitioner(s) :

Mr. Deepanshu Matya, Adv.
Ms. Palak Goel, Adv.
Mrs. Bano Deswal, Adv.
Mr. R. C. Kaushik, AOR

For Respondent(s) :

Mr. Karan Sharma, AOR

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

1. The petitioner has been denied anticipatory bail by the High Court in connection with First Information Report No.44 of 2025 registered with Kabarwala Police Station, District Sri Muktsar Sahib, State of Punjab, for the offence punishable under Sections 15(c), 29, 61, and 85 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act 1985 (for short, "the NDPS Act").

2. It appears that a pickup truck was intercepted by the police, as there was an information that some contraband in the form of

Narcotics has been clandestinely stored in the said pickup truck. No sooner the vehicle was intercepted, then the driver made good his escape. This happened on 16th May, 2025. The contraband in the present case is 120 kgs of poppy husk. After a period of almost three months, i.e. on 26th August, 2025, one person by name Jasbir Singh was arrested. Jasbir Singh in his statement before the Police named the present petitioner as the person who had uploaded the contraband in the pickup van.

3. At the time of issuing notice, we had granted protection to the petitioner from any coercive steps being taken against him.

4. We heard the learned counsel appearing for the parties.

5. We also looked into the affidavit filed by the Investigating Officer. Except the confessional statement of Jasbir Singh, *prima facie*, there is no other material on record to connect the present petitioner with the alleged recovery of the contraband. The learned counsel appearing for the petitioner has leveled allegations of political *mala fides* and false implications. However, we would not like to enter into this debate at this point of time.

6. In the overall view of the matter, we are persuaded to exercise our discretion in favor of the petitioner.

7. We order that in the event of arrest of the petitioner in connection with the FIR, referred to above, he shall be released on bail, subject to terms and conditions that the Investigating Officer may deem fit to impose.

8. Once the petitioner is released on bail by the IO, he shall thereafter appear before the concerned Trial Court and furnish fresh bail bonds. We also direct the petitioner to appear at the earliest before the IO for the purpose of his interrogation. He must join the investigation and cooperate.

9. With the aforesaid, this petition stands disposed of.

10. Pending applications, if any, also stand disposed of.

(VISHAL ANAND)
DEPUTY REGISTRAR

(POOJA SHARMA)
COURT MASTER (NSH)