



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

213

**CRM-M-19812-2025(O&M)
Date of Decision: 16.05.2025**

BALDEV SINGH @ VICKY

...Petitioner

VERSUS

STATE OF PUNJAB

...Respondent

CORAM : HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE MANISHA BATRA

Present : Mr. Raghav Soni, Advocate for the petitioner.

Ms Sakshi Bakshi, AAG, Punjab.

MANISHA BATRA, J. (Oral)

The present petition has been filed under Section 482 of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 seeking anticipatory bail in FIR mentioned below:-

FIR No.	Dated	Police Station	Sections
13	08.02.2025	Sadar, District Amritsar	118(1), 115(2), 351(2), 3(5) of BNS, 2023

2. Vide order dated 09.04.2025 passed by this Court, the petitioner was ordered to be released on interim bail and was directed to join investigation.

3. Learned State counsel has filed status report. The same is taken on record and be tagged at the appropriate place. Further submitted by learned State counsel that the petitioner has joined the investigation on 15.04.2025. However, it has been submitted in the status report that the petitioner has not cooperated with the Investigating Officer and has also not



disclosed about the identity of co-accused involved with them in commission of crime.

4. This Court cannot treat the behaviour attributed to the petitioner to be an instance of non-cooperation, justifying denial for pre-arrest bail since, an accused while joining investigation, is not expected to make self incriminating statement under threat that the benefit of interim protection may be withdrawn. So far as, denial to disclose the information as required is concerned, that cannot be considered as a ground for denial of benefit of bail to the petitioner. In the considered opinion of this Court in the given circumstances, the pretrial incarceration of the petitioner is not required. As such, the present petition is allowed and the order dated 09.04.2025 granting interim bail to the petitioner, is made absolute, subject to compliance of usual terms and conditions requisite for grant of anticipatory bail.

5. It is also made clear that any observation made herein shall not be treated as an expression of opinion on the merits of the case.

16.05.2025

Deepak Patwal

(MANISHA BATRA)

JUDGE

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| 1. <i>Whether speaking/reasoned</i> | <i>Yes/No</i> |
| 2. <i>Whether reportable</i> | <i>Yes/No</i> |