



IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

108+225

CRM-M-21001-2025 (O&M)
Date of decision: 7th August, 2025

Gurpreet Singh

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE MANISHA BATRA

Present: Mr. Paras Jagga, Advocate for the petitioner.
Ms. Sakshi Bakshi, Assistant Advocate General, Punjab.

MANISHA BATRA, J (ORAL):-**CRM-30808-2025**

This application has been filed by the applicant for placing on record the copy of final report under Section 193 of BNSS as Annexure P-3

For the reasons mentioned in the application, the same is allowed, subject to all just exceptions. Annexure P-3 is ordered to be taken on record.

Main case

The present petition has been filed under Section 483 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (for short 'BNSS') by the petitioner seeking grant of regular bail in case bearing FIR No. 24 dated 18.09.2024 registered under Sections 318 (4) and 61(2) of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (for short 'BNS') and Section 238 of BNS at Police Station Cyber Crime, SAS Nagar, Mohali, Punjab.

2. Brief facts relevant for the purpose of disposal of this petition are that the aforementioned FIR was registered on the basis of complaint



lodged by the complainant Meenakshi Garg levelling allegations of being duped of an amount of approximately Rs.1,74,50,000/- while trading in shares online through platforms <https://app.bekisj.com> and <https://lkrept.com> that were promoted by a *Whatsapp* group operated through the guidance of *Whatsapp* accounts run by the administrators named as Professor Ankit Aggarwal and his assistant Meera.

3. After registration of FIR, investigation proceedings were initiated. It was revealed during investigation that the amount taken from the complainant was transferred to six different bank accounts by various transactions. Information about the *Whatsapp* group and its associated accounts was obtained and it was found that those accounts were operated from Cambodia and the websites were used to build fake trading dashboard and were registered with Alibaba Cloud. The authorities of Alibaba cloud were directed to provide information. After following the money trail, it was revealed that an amount of Rs.30 lakhs was transferred from the account of the complainant in the account run in the name of one Nalini Marketing and from the said account, transfer of amount of Rs.10,80,000/- had been made in the bank account in the name of co-accused Rubeena Nara as on 07.09.2024. She was nominated as an accused and was arrested on 23.10.2024.

4. On interrogation, she suffered disclosure statement on the basis of which the present petitioner and co-accused Prince Ghai, her cousin were nominated as accused. The accused Prince Ghai and the petitioner were arrested on 23.10.2024. Three mobile phones, some cheques, debit card, Sim card etc. had been recovered from the petitioner. During the course of investigation, statement of one Jasvir Kaur was also recorded who disclosed



that the petitioner and co-accused Prince Ghai had convinced her to open bank account and had purchased a sim card in her name which was kept by the petitioner. Investigation now stands completed and the petitioner along with the co-accused Rubeena Nara and Prince Ghai is facing trial for commission of aforementioned offences.

5. It is argued by learned counsel for the petitioner that he has been falsely implicated in this case. He is in custody since long. He had been residing in Dubai from the last 4-5 years prior to the year 2024. He had come to India in March, 2024 due to death of some family members and had decided to stay for some time. The co-accused Prince Ghai was acquainted with him. On the day of his arrest, he had casually gone with the accused Prince and was arrested. He is neither the beneficiary of any transaction nor any amount of money has been received by him. He was not even named in the FIR. The subject offences are triable by Magistrate. His further incarceration would not serve any useful purpose. Therefore, it is urged that he deserves to be released on bail.

6. Status report has been filed. It is argued by learned State counsel that there are serious allegations against the petitioner who in connivance with the co-accused had been committing cyber crime to defraud the complainant and other public persons. He along with the co-accused Prince Ghai had been getting opened bank accounts of different persons for the purpose of transfer of money extracted from innocent public persons. The bank account of co-accused Rubeena Nara and Jasvir Kaur had been got opened by him in connivance with co-accused Prince Ghai. His active participation in the entire crime has been reflected from the material collected during investigation. There are chances of his absconding, if



extended benefit of bail. It is, therefore, urged that the petitioner does not deserve to be released on bail.

7. I have heard learned counsel for the parties at considerable length and have gone through the record carefully.

8. The petitioner along with the co-accused Prince Ghai is alleged to have asked the co-accused Rubeena Nara and one Jasvir Kaur to open bank accounts in their names in lieu of some money. With the active connivance of the petitioner and the co-accused, some other bank accounts had also been opened which were utilized for transfer of money extracted from the complainant and other innocent persons. There are serious allegations against the petitioner. Crimes of this nature are on the rise and have become a growing menace in today's digital age. Cyber criminals are using sophisticated methods to target public persons and institutions. A stringent approach to deter offenders is required. The gamut of above discussed circumstances does not call for grant of benefit of bail to the petitioner. Accordingly, the petition does not deserve to be allowed and is dismissed.

9. It is, however, clarified that the observations made hereinabove shall not be construed as an expression of opinion on the merits of the case.

10. Since the main petition has been dismissed, pending application, if any, is rendered infructuous.

[MANISHA BATRA]
JUDGE

7th August, 2025

Parveen Sharma

1. *Whether speaking/ reasoned* : *Yes / No*
2. *Whether reportable* : *Yes / No*