

2025:PHHC:102868



CRM-M-41860-2025 (O & M)

::1::

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH
(230)

CRM-M-41860-2025 (O & M)

Date of decision: 08.08.2025

Sonu

..... Petitioner

V/s

State of Haryana

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JASJIT SINGH BEDI

Present: Mr. Amit Choudhary, Advocate, for the petitioner.

Mr. Vipul Sherwal, AAG, Haryana.

JASJIT SINGH BEDI, J. (Oral)

The prayer in this petition under Section 483 of the BNSS, 2023 is for the grant of the regular bail to the petitioner in case FIR No.17 dated 16.05.2025 under Sections 7 and 13(1)(b) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 registered at Police Station Anti Corruption Bureau, Hisar, District Hisar, Haryana.

2. The brief facts of the case are that father of the complainant Ravinder Kumar had a plot measuring 12- square yards in Friends Colony, Hisar. His father expired in 2022 and thereafter, the complainant applied for the transfer of the plot from the name of his father to the name of his mother in the Co-operative Housing Building Society Limited, Hisar and also deposited a fee of Rs.3155/-. The accused Harbans Lal (since granted bail

2025:PHHC:102868



CRM-M-41860-2025 (O & M)

::2::

vide order dated 07.08.2025 passed in CRM-M-41515-2025) was working as an Inspector in the said cooperative Society and he demanded a sum of Rs.50,000/- for transferring the plot in question in the name of complainant's mother. On 15.05.2025, when the complainant went to the society office, the accused sought a bribe of Rs.30,000/- and thereafter, the complainant contacted the Anti Corruption Bureau and a raiding team was constituted. A trap was laid on 16.05.2025. The co-accused/Harbans Lal and the complainant were standing at a tea stall. A third person came and joined them. On a signal of the complainant, the raiding party caught Harbans Lal and the other person, namely, Sub-Inspector Sonu (petitioner) at the spot. The co-accused/Harbans Lal disclosed that the bribe amount was in possession of Sonu. Sonu was caught red-handed with the bribe money of Rs.30,000/- in the denomination of Rs.500/- currency notes. The hands of Sonu were dipped in a solution of sodium carbonate and they turned pink.

3. The learned counsel for the petitioner contends that the petitioner has been falsely implicated in the present case. The recovery of Rs.30,000/- has been planted upon him. As the petitioner is in custody since 16.05.2025 but none of the 37 prosecution witnesses has been examined so far, the Trial of the present case is not likely to be concluded anytime soon and therefore, he is entitled to the concession of bail, moreso, when his co-accused/Harbans Lal has been granted the similar concession.

2025:PHHC:102868



CRM-M-41860-2025 (O & M)

::3::

4. The learned counsel for the State, on the other hand, contends that the nature of the allegations upon levelled against the petitioner do not entitle him to the concession as prayed for. He, however, concedes that the petitioner is in custody since 16.05.2025 that none of the 37 prosecution witnesses has been examined so far and that a co-accused has been granted bail.

5. I have heard the learned counsel for the parties.

6. The veracity of the prosecution case against the petitioner and his co-accused shall be adjudicated upon during the course of the Trial. Admittedly, the petitioner is in custody since 16.05.2025 but none of the 37 prosecution witnesses has been examined so far. Therefore, the Trial in the present case is not likely to be concluded anytime soon. In this situation, the petitioner can be granted the concession of bail, moreso, when a co-accused/Harbans Lal has been granted the similar relief.

7. Thus, without commenting upon the merits of the case, the present petition is allowed and the petitioner, namely, Sonu is ordered to be released on bail to the satisfaction of the Trial Court/Duty Magistrate concerned.

8. In addition, the petitioner (or anyone on his behalf) shall prepare an FDR in the sum of Rs.50,000/- and deposit the same with the Trial Court. The same would be liable to be forfeited as per law in case of the absence of the petitioner from Trial without sufficient cause.

2025:PHHC:102868



CRM-M-41860-2025 (O & M)

::4::

9. The present petition stands disposed of.
10. The pending application(s), if any, shall stand disposed of accordingly.

August 08, 2025
sukhpreet

(JASJIT SINGH BEDI)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No

Whether reportable : Yes/No