



IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA  
AT CHANDIGARH

269

CRM-M-27972-2025  
Pronounced on: 11.09.2025

**DHARAM SINGH CHHOKER**

...Petitioner(s)

**Versus****DIRECTORATE OF ENFORCEMENT AND OTHERS**

...Respondent(s)

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE TRIBHUVAN DAHIYA**

Present:- Mr. Vikram Chaudhri, Senior Advocate with  
Ms. Hargun Sandhu, Advocate  
for the petitioner.

Mr. Zoheb Hossain, Special Counsel  
(Through Video Conferencing)  
Mr. Lokesh Narang, Senior Panel Counsel  
for the respondents/ED.

**TRIBHUVAN DAHIYA, J.**

The petition has been filed under Section 483 of the Bharatiya  
Nagarik Suraksha Sahita, 2023 (BNSS) seeking petitioner's release on bail in  
ECIR/GNZO/20/2021 dated 16.11.2021 under the Prevention of Money  
Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA).

2. The petitioner has straightaway approached this Court without  
first approaching the Sessions Court on the plea that he has been granted  
liberty by the Supreme Court to approach the High Court, vide order dated  
16.05.2025 passed in Writ Petition (Criminal) Diary No.26575/2025 titled  
*Dharam Singh Chhoker v. Union of India and others*. The order reads as  
under:

We are not inclined to invoke our power under Article 32  
of the Constitution of India, 1950. However, liberty is given to  
the petitioner to approach the High Court for an appropriate  
remedy, in accordance with law.



The Writ petition stands disposed of with the aforesaid liberty.

The aforementioned order was passed in the petition filed against the judgment dated 23.10.2024 passed in CWP-25140-2024, whereby a direction was issued to the Enforcement Directorate to arrest the petitioner.

3. This Court as well as the Court of Session has concurrent jurisdiction to release any person accused of an offence on bail under Section 483 BNSS. As per the settled law, there has to be specific reasons and peculiar circumstances for invoking the jurisdiction of this Court for grant of regular bail without first approaching the Court of Session.

4. No such circumstances or reasons could not be brought to this Court's notice justifying filing of the petition, nor is it a case that the petitioner is, in any manner, precluded from approaching the Court of Session for the grant of bail.

5. In view thereof, finding no ground to entertain the petition, it stands disposed of granting liberty to the petitioner to approach the Court of Session seeking regular bail.

(TRIBHUVAN DAHIYA)  
JUDGE

11.09.2025

*Ad*

*Whether speaking/reasoned*      *Yes/No*

*Whether reportable*      *Yes/No*