

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

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2025:PHHC:133867



CRM-M-11878-2018 (O&M)
Date of decision: 24.09.2025.

RANJODH SINGH

...Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

STATE OF PUNJAB AND ANOTHER

...Respondent(s)

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VINOD S. BHARDWAJ

Present :- Ms. Varsha Choudhary, Advocate, (Legal-aid-counsel)
for the petitioner(s).

Mr. Mohit Kapoor, Sr. DAG, Punjab.

VINOD S. BHARDWAJ, J. (Oral)

The instant petition has been filed by the petitioner for seeking quashing of FIR bearing No.70 dated 16.05.2014 under Sections 465, 468, and 471 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860, registered at Police Station Model Town Hoshiarpur, District Hoshiarpur, along with all consequential proceedings arising therefrom.

2 Nobody has been appearing on behalf of the petitioner for the last two dates and the matter pertains to the year 2018. Position remains the same today as well. Hence, Ms. Varsha Choudhary, Advocate, (Mobile

No.9872747708) who is present in the Court is appointed as legal-aid-counsel to assist this Court on behalf of the petitioner.

3 Legal aid counsel has gone through the paper book. She submits that the petitioner had applied for issuance of passport in the year 2014 through some agents, who used to sit near the Regional Passport Office. The petitioner was required to give details of the registered/pending FIRs, if any, against him and he came to know that the aforesaid FIR stood registered which includes the name of the petitioner as well. During investigation of similar FIRs, an SIT was constituted and in the high level inquiry/investigation report dated 10.04.2017, it came to notice that some other agents of the passport office were involved in the matter. She submits that petitioner's name was not found in the FIR, however, when the petitioner was called by the police for investigation, he applied for the grant of anticipatory bail. Vide order dated 29.09.2016, it was noticed by the Additional Sessions Judge, Hoshiarpur that there was nothing incriminating against the petitioner. She submits that since the petitioner wanted to go abroad for higher education, hence, the present petition had been filed.

4 Vide order dated 21.03.2018, the State counsel was directed to file status report with respect to the involvement of the petitioner.

5 A status report by way of affidavit of Jagdish Raj, PPS, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Sub Division City, Hoshiarpur, dated 17.09.2019 on behalf of the respondent-State had been filed.

6 It is averred in the said affidavit that during investigation of the aforesaid FIR, the father of the petitioner submitted an application to the Senior Superintendent of Police, Hoshiarpur, alleging false implication of

the petitioner. The said application was marked for inquiry to the DSP (HQ), Hoshiarpur, who conducted an inquiry into the matter and concluded that the petitioner had committed the offences mentioned in the FIR. The date of birth certificate of the petitioner along with certificates annexed with other applications were got verified from the office of Registrar of Births and Deaths, Hoshiarpur, and it was reported that the date of birth certificate of the petitioner and others were not issued by their office. The said inquiry report of DSP (HQ) was approved by the SSP, Hoshiarpur. Other accused Ajay Kumar and others also submitted applications with the SSP, Hoshiarpur alleging their false implication. On the said applications, inquiry was got conducted and DSP (HQ) found that the other co-accused of Ajay Kumar had also committed the offences as mentioned in the FIR. The said inquiry report of the DSP (HQ) Hoshiarpur was approved by the SSP, Hoshiarpur. Subsequently, a special investigation team was constituted to conduct an investigation in the above mentioned FIR. The SIT conducted investigation and recommended detaining the legal opinion of the District Attorney, Hoshiarpur. The District Attorney, Hoshiarpur, opined that a fair and proper investigation had been conducted and thus the SSP, Hoshiarpur approved the report of the Special Investigation Team vide order No.1494/PC dated 05.06.2019 and sent the same to the police at Police Station, Model Town, for further necessary action.

7 However, it is evident from a perusal of the judgment passed by the Judicial Magistrate First Class, Hoshiarpur, on 04.01.2025 that the prosecution failed to establish its case and connect the accused persons (including the petitioner herein) with the commission of offence. Hence, the

petitioner was acquitted of the charges for which he was facing the trial.

8 Consequently, the present petition is dismissed as having been rendered infructuous.

9 A copy of this order be also sent to the High Court Legal Services Committee, for further necessary action.

September 24, 2025.
raj arora

(VINOD S. BHARDWAJ)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned : *Yes/No*
Whether reportable : *Yes/No*