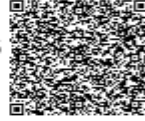


2025:PHHC:068156



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

**CRM M-62859 of 2024  
Date of Decision: 19.05.2025**

(1)

Manjit Singh Bhatia ...Petitioner  
Versus  
State of Haryana ... Respondent

**CRM M-63684 of 2024**

(2)

Suraj Kumar ...Petitioner  
Versus  
State of Haryana ... Respondent

**CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE N.S.SHEKHAWAT**

Present : Mr. Sunil Kumar Dhanda, Advocate  
for the petitioner in CRM M-62859 of 2024.

Mr. Abhishek Chaa, Advocate  
for the petitioner in CRM M-63684-2024.

Mr. Rajiv Sidhu, DAG, Haryana.

**N.S.SHEKHAWAT, J. (Oral)**

1. This order shall dispose off two petitions, i.e.,  
**CRM M-62859 of 2024** titled as “**Manjit Singh Bhatia Vs. State of  
Haryana**” and **CRM M-63684-2024** titled as “**Suraj Singh Vs.**

**State of Haryana”** whereby, the petitioners have prayed for grant of regular bail in case FIR No.18 dated 01.05.2024 registered under Sections 409, 420, 465, 467, 471, 201 and 120-B of IPC and Sections 8 and 13 of Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 at Police Station Anti Corruption Bureau, Gurugram.

2. Learned counsel appearing on behalf of Manjit Singh Bhatia (petitioner in CRM M-62859-2024) submits that the FIR in the present case was registered against a trust, namely, Sarati Devi, Educational Charitable Trust (Registered), Ateli Mandi, which was running two institutes, i.e., Rohitash Degree College, Ateli Mandi and Rohitash Institute of Management, Ateli Mandi. On the basis of a source report regarding embezzlement of amounts, the Anti Corruption Bureau conducted an inquiry about the mismanagement in the affairs of Rohitash Degree College, Ateli Mandi. During the course of inquiry, it was found that during the years 2014-2015, 2015-2016, 2016-2017 and 2017-2018, the management of Rohitash Degree College, Ateli Mandi, had committed the embezzlement of crores of rupees under the post metric scholarship scheme. The management had fraudulently shown the admission of the students under the category schedules castes and other backward classes and received amount in its account and the various amounts were not actually disbursed to the beneficiaries and this was committed in connivance with the employees of the Higher Education Department, Haryana. Even, the management had destroyed the records by setting

the same on fire. Even, the total amount of embezzlement was found to be Rs.2,58,59,200/-.

3. Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that the FIR was initially registered against the management of Rohitash Degree College as well as Rohitash Institute of Management, Ateli, and some unknown officials of higher education. Even during the course of preliminary inquiry, no material was found against the present petitioner and the petitioner has been involved only on the basis of suspicion. In fact, the petitioner was working as an auditor in Higher Education Department, Haryana and his duty was to compare the names, as per the admission record, which was sent by Rohitash Institute of Management and Technology. The petitioner has even now retired from the department. He further contends that just to save the erring officials, the present petitioner has been made a scapegoat. Even, the petitioner had only audited the record, which was sent by the Rohitash Institute of Management and Technology. Even, the students had to apply directly on the portal of Director Higher Education for pursuing further studies. Consequently, the petitioner had no role to play in the entire episode. Apart from that, the amount of post metric scholarship shall be paid into two parts, out of which, one part was to be paid to the College/Institute in the shape of fee and the other scholarship amount was to be paid to the beneficiary directly. Consequently, there was no question of embezzlement by the petitioner in the present case. Learned counsel further contends

that the petitioner was arrested in the present case on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2024 and is in custody for the last more than 07 months. Even, the challan has been presented against him. By referring to the order dated 17.09.2024 (Annexure P-6), learned counsel submits that Rohitash Singh Yadav, the main accused in the present case has already been admitted on regular bail by the Court of Sessions Judge, Narnaul. The case of the petitioner is on better footings and the petitioner may be granted the concession of bail.

4. Learned counsel appearing on behalf of Suraj Singh (petitioner in CRM M-63684-2024) submits that the present petitioner was working as a Superintendent in Higher Education Department, Haryana, and has been falsely involved. He has also raised similar arguments and submitted that the record has already been collected during the course of investigation. Even, the petitioner was arrested on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2024 and is in custody since then.

5. On the other hand, learned State counsel has vehemently opposed the submissions made by the learned counsel for the petitioners on the ground that the petitioners had hatched a criminal conspiracy with Rohitash Singh Yadav and managements of both the institutes. Even, petitioner Manjit Singh Bhatia was working as an auditor and petitioner Suraj Singh was working as a Superintendent in the Higher Education Department, Haryana and misused their

position and embezzled the amount by paying huge sums to colleges illegally.

6. I have heard learned counsel for the parties and perused the record.

7. In the present case, it is apparent that the case is primarily based on documentary evidence, which has been collected by the police during the course of investigation. Moreover, the petitioners are stated to be in custody for the last more than 7 months and *challan* has already been presented against them. Moreover, the main accused Rohitash Singh Yadav has already been granted the concession of bail by the Court of Sessions Judge, Narnaul, vide order dated 17.09.2024 (Annexure P-6). Apart from that, other co-accused of the petitioner, namely, Veena Yadav, has also been granted the concession of bail by this Court vide order dated 27.09.2024 (Annexure P-7).

8. In view of the above, without commenting any further on the merits, the present petitions are allowed and the petitioners are ordered to be released on bail on their furnishing bail bonds/surety bonds to the satisfaction of the learned trial Court/Duty Magistrate/CJM concerned subject to the following conditions:-

*(i) The petitioners shall not directly or indirectly make any inducement, threat or promise to any person acquainted with the facts of the case, so as to dissuade him to disclose such facts to the Court or to any other authority.*

*(ii) The petitioners shall remain present before the Court on the dates fixed for hearing of the case.*

*(iii) The petitioners shall not absent themselves from the Court proceedings except on the prior permission of the Court concerned.*

*(iv) The petitioners shall surrender their passports, if any, (if already not surrendered), and in case they are not holders of the same, they shall swear an affidavit to that effect.*

*(v) The petitioners shall also file their affidavit before the concerned Court, mentioning their ordinary place of residence and number of mobile phone, which shall be used by them during the pendency of the trial. In case of change of place of residence/mobile number, they shall share the details with the concerned Court/learned Trial Court.*

*(vi) In case, the petitioners get involved in any other criminal activity, during the pendency of the trial, it shall be viewed seriously and the prosecution shall be at liberty to move an appropriate application for cancellation of bail granted to the present petitioners.*

*(vii) The concerned Court may insist two heavy local surties and may also impose any other condition, in accordance with law, while accepting the bails bonds and surety bonds of the petitioners.*

*(viii) The petitioners shall report every 1<sup>st</sup> Monday in English calander month before the concerned SHO till the conclusion of the trial and SHO shall mark their presence by making an entry in the Rojnamcha. In case, they do not report on every 1<sup>st</sup> Monday before the concerned SHO, it shall be viewed seriously and the concession granted to them shall be liable to be cancelled and the State of Haryana shall be at liberty to move an appropriate application in this regard.*

**19.05.2025**  
amit rana

**(N.S.SHEKHAWAT)**  
**JUDGE**

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