



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

212

CRM-M-7640-2026 (O&M)
Date of Decision: 17.09.2026

Lovepreet Singh @ Labha

...Petitioner

V/s

State of Punjab

...Respondent

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VIKRAM AGGARWAL

Present: Mr. Hitesh Chopra, Advocate, for the petitioner.

Mr. Rahul Jindal, AAG, Punjab.

VIKRAM AGGARWAL, J (ORAL)

CRM-24575-2026

Prayer in the present application preferred under Section 528 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (for short 'the BNSS') is for amendment of the petition as the details of other FIRs registered against the petitioner were inadvertently not mentioned in the petition.

For the reasons mentioned in the application, the same is allowed. Petitioner is permitted to amend the petition. Amended petition is taken on record.

The Registry is directed to tag the same at an appropriate place on the case file.

CRM-M-7640-2026

The prayer in the present petition preferred under Section 483 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (for short, 'the BNSS') is for the grant of regular bail to the petitioner in case FIR No.22, dated 30.04.2025 registered at Police Station Narot Jaimal Singh, PTK, District Pathankot under Section 21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 (for

short 'the NDPS Act') and Sections 10, 11, 12 of the Air Craft Act, 1934.

2. Custody certificate dated 15.09.2026 filed in Court today is taken on record.

3. On 30.04.2025, a drone was recovered from a riverbed. One packet was also found along side the said drone. 500 grams of heroin is alleged to have been recovered from the said packet.

4. The petitioner was apprehended in FIR No.92 dated 01.08.2025 registered at Police Station Taragarh, under Sections 21 and 29 of the NDPS Act. Subsequently, FIR No.93 dated 02.08.2025 was also registered at Police Station Taragarh under Sections 21, 29 of the NDPS Act and Section 111 BNS. In FIR No.92, the petitioner is alleged to have suffered a disclosure statement on 31.08.2025 that the heroin recovered on 30.04.2025 belonged to him. Accordingly, the petitioner was arrested in the present case as well on 16.09.2025 and is in custody since then.

5. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the petitioner has been falsely implicated. He submits that under no circumstance can the petitioner be linked with the said contraband. He submits that apart from the disclosure statement, there is no other evidence against the petitioner to link him with the said contraband. Learned counsel submits that investigation stands completed; final report has been submitted; however, charges have not been framed as a result of which, out of 18 witnesses, none has been examined; trial will take a sufficiently long time, and, therefore, no useful purpose would be served by keeping the petitioner in custody any longer.

6. *Per contra*, learned State counsel has opposed the bail application, stating that a commercial quantity of heroin is alleged to have been recovered from the petitioner, which as per the petitioner himself, belonged to him.

7. I have considered the submissions made by learned counsel for the parties.

8. As to whether the petitioner can be linked with the said contraband shall be determined only when the trial concludes. Concededly, the recovery was made on 30.04.2025 and the petitioner, while in custody in some other case, is alleged to have given a disclosure statement about the heroin recovered in the present case. The admissibility of the same shall also be determined at the stage of trial. The petitioner is in custody since 16.09.2025. One year has elapsed. Investigation stands completed. Final report has been submitted. However, charges have not been framed as a result of which, no witness out of 18 witnesses has been examined as of now. It is, therefore, clear that trial will take a sufficiently long time and in the considered opinion of this Court, no useful purpose would be served by keeping the petitioner in custody any longer.

9. In view of the aforementioned facts and circumstances, without expressing any opinion on the merits of the case, the present petition is allowed. The petitioner is ordered to be released on regular bail on his furnishing bail/surety bonds to the satisfaction of the concerned trial Court/Chief Judicial Magistrate/Duty Magistrate.

10. Pending application(s), if any, shall also stand disposed of.

(VIKRAM AGGARWAL)
JUDGE

September 17, 2026

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Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No

Whether reportable : Yes/No