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KULVINDER SINGH V/S STATE OF PUNJAB

Present:

Mr. Rahul Diwan, Advocate

Mr. Kamal Deep Sidhu, Advocate and Mr. Abhyudaya Chandra, Advocate

for the petitioner.

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The instant petition has been filed under Section 482 of BNSS, 2023 seeking grant of anticipatory bail to the petitioner in case FIR No.83 dated 29.05.2025 under Sections 318(4), 343, 61(2)(a) of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, registered at Police Station City Rampura, District Bathinda (Annexure P-2).

Learned counsel for the petitioner *inter alia* contends that the petitioner has been falsely implicated in the present FIR (Annexure P-2), which is alleged to be politically motivated. It is submitted that the complainant is affiliated with the Ruling Party, while the petitioner is a former Municipal Councillor from a rival political party, and that precisely is the motive behind the initiation of the proceedings.

It has been further pointed out that a similar complaint involving the present petitioner and certain Government officials, including the then District Revenue Officer-Saroj Bala, was previously lodged by the complainant and others. After due inquiry, the allegations in that complaint were found to be baseless and the petitioner was, therefore, exonerated.

Furthermore, the present FIR has been registered after unexplained and inordinate delay of 4 years from the date of alleged incident, casting serious doubts on its *bona fides*.

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In addition, learned counsel contends that the investigating agency has acted in contravention of the law laid down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in *Arnesh Kumar V/s State of Bihar*, (2014) 8 SCC 273.

Notice of motion.

On the asking of the Court, Mr. H.S. Deol, Sr. DAG, Punjab accepts notice on behalf of the respondent-State and seeks time to file reply.

Adjourned to 29.07.2025.

July 14, 2025

Jaspreet Kaur

(MANJARI NEHRU KAUL) JUDGE