



IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA  
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. \_\_\_\_\_ OF 2026  
(@SLP(CRL.) NO.1268 OF 2026)

MANPREET SINGH GILL

.....

APPELLANTS

VERSUS

STATE OF PUNJAB & ANR.

.....

RESPONDENTS

O R D E R

1. Heard.

2. Leave granted.

3. A Complaint came to be lodged on 11.11.2025 by Respondent No.2 alleging that appellant with whom she had developed a relationship, after being misled about his marital status, had threatened her with dire consequences to withdraw an earlier complaint and had sexual relationship with her on the intervening night of 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> November, 2025 after administering alcohol and by intimidating her. On the other hand, the appellant asserts that the relationship was consensual alleging extortion and false implication and by

relying upon the digital material to challenge the version of the complainant he seeks for allowing of this appeal. Both the courts have rejected the prayer of the appellant.

4. This court had granted an interim protection to the appellant pursuant to which he has appeared before the Investigating Officer (IO). Even according to the complainant, the relationship between the parties was consensual. As to whether any threat was posed, as alleged, is a matter of evidence. Based on unverified allegations, it cannot be held that the appellant requires to be morally condemned. As such we are of the considered view that the appellant is entitled to be released on anticipatory bail.

5. Accordingly, appeal is allowed. Impugned order is set aside. Appellant is ordered to be released on anticipatory bail on such terms and conditions as the jurisdictional IO may deem fit to impose and also on the condition that appellant would appear before the jurisdictional court on all dates of hearing except when exempted for any specific reason.

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

.....J.  
(ARAVIND KUMAR)

.....J.  
(PRASANNA B. VARALE)

New Delhi;  
April 20, 2026.

ITEM NO.5

COURT NO.14

SECTION II-B

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A  
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Petition(s) for Special Leave to Appeal (Crl.) No. 1268/2026

[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 24-12-2025 in CRMM No. 69388/2025 passed by the High Court of Punjab & Haryana at Chandigarh]

MANPREET SINGH GILL

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

THE STATE OF PUNJAB & ANR.

Respondent(s)

IA No. 21573/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE IMPUGNED JUDGMENT and IA No. 21572/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.

Date : 20-04-2026 This matter was called on for hearing today.

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARAVIND KUMAR  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PRASANNA B. VARALE

For Petitioner(s) : Ms. Sana Raees Khan, Adv.  
Mr. Pranay Shridhar Chitale, AOR  
Mr. Aditya Dutta, Adv.

For Respondent(s) : Mr. Harisha S.R., AOR  
Mr. Varun Katyal, Adv.  
Ms. Babita Sant, Adv.  
Ms. Anjali Bansal, Adv.  
Ms. Ekta Chauhan, Adv.  
Mr. Satyam Sharma, Adv.

Mr. Vivek Jain, A.A.G.  
Mr. Karan Sharma, AOR

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following  
O R D E R

1. Leave granted.
2. Appeal is allowed in terms of the Signed Order placed on the file.
3. Pending application(s), if any, shall stand disposed of.

(RASHI GUPTA)  
COURT MASTER (SH)

(AVGV RAMU)  
COURT MASTER (NSH)