

CRM-M-41591-2025

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

CRM-M-41591-2025  
Reserved on: 11.09.2025  
Pronounced on: 30.09.2025

Pritam Singh ...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab ...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ANOOP CHITKARA

Present: Mr. Tanvir Joshi, Advocate  
for the petitioner.

Mr. Jasdev Singh Thind, DAG, Punjab.

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ANOOP CHITKARA, J.

FIR No.	Dated	Police Station	Sections
41	20.06.2025	Lakhewali, District Muktsar Sahib	118(1)/118(2)/3(5) of BNS 2023

1. The petitioner apprehending arrest in the FIR captioned above has come up before this Court under Section 482 of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, [BNSS], seeking anticipatory bail.

2. Per paragraph 13 of the bail petition, the petitioner has no criminal antecedents.

3. The facts and allegations are being taken from the reply filed by the State, which reads as follows:

*“3.... it is revealed that on 01.06.2025, one ruqa No. 1050 dated 01.06.2025 regarding the injuries of Pritam Singh was received from Civil Hospital, Sri Muktsar Sahib, as well as ruqa No. 147 dated 01.06.2025 concerning the injuries of Angrej Singh from Sandhu Hospital, Sri Muktsar Sahib. Both ruqas were handed over by the MHC, Police Station Lakhewali, to ASI Harnek Singh for further action.*

*4. That on 03.06.2025, ASI Harnek Singh, along with the police officials, proceeded in respect of ruqa No. 1050 dated 01.06.2025 of injured Pritam Singh to Civil Hospital, Sri Muktsar Sahib. MLR No. NS/130/MLR/SMS/2025 of injured Pritam Singh was obtained, and his statement was recorded, wherein an offence under Sections 115(2) and 3(5) of the BNS was found to be made out. The said statement was*

CRM-M-41591-2025

*accordingly sent through SCT Rajdeep Singh to the Police Station for registration in the General Diary. A copy of the MLR of Pritam Singh is attached herewith as Annexure R-1.*

*5. ASI Harnek Singh reached Sandhu Hospital, Sri Muktsar Sahib, and moved an application before the concerned doctor for recording his statement. The doctor declared him fit for statement. Another application was moved for obtaining the MLR of the injured Angrej Singh, to which the doctor verbally stated that the MLR would be issued the next morning at 10:00 AM. In this regard, GD No. 25 dated 03.06.2025 was entered in the rapatrozنامcha. A copy of the MLR of Angrej Singh is attached herewith as Annexure R-2.*

*6. That on 04.06.2025, ASI Harnek Singh along with the police officials again visited at Sandhu Hospital, Sri Muktsar Sahib, obtained MLR No. CR No. 43429 No. 118 dated 01.06.2025 of injured Angrej Singh, and recorded his statement near his bed while he was talking to his relatives. As per the said MLR, the doctor noted two sharpweapon injuries which could also be self-inflicted ("friendly hand" injuries). An opinion from the doctor was awaited and upon receipt of the same, further action was to be taken. Accordingly, GD No. 23 dated 04.06.2025 was entered in the rozنامcha.*

*7. That subsequently, ASI Harnek Singh again approached the concerned doctor for opinion regarding the injuries in MLR No. CR No. 43429 No. 118 dated 01.06.2025 of Angrej Singh, and the doctor opined that "the injuries marked and reported in the MLR are correct." The Investigation Officer thereafter visited village Phulewala, conducted investigation, and confirmed that a fight had indeed taken place. On the basis of statements of the complainant, the MLR of Angrej Singh, the medical opinion, and other investigation, offences under Sections 118(1), 118(2), and 3(5) of BNS were found to be made out against Pritam Singh, Aashdeep Singh, Amritpal Kaur, and Jagjeet Singh. Accordingly, a ruqa was sent through PHG Kashmir Singh to the Police Station for registration of FIR."*

4. The petitioner's counsel prays for bail by imposing any stringent conditions and contends that pre-trial incarceration would cause an irreversible injustice to the petitioner and their family. Counsel further submits that the petitioner would have no objection whatsoever to any stringent conditions that this Court may impose, including that if the petitioner repeats the offense or commits any non-bailable offense which provides for a sentence of imprisonment for more than seven years, the State may file an application to

CRM-M-41591-2025

revoke this bail before the concerned Court having jurisdiction over this FIR, which shall have the authority to cancel this bail, and may do so at their discretion, to which the petitioner shall have no objection.

5. The State's counsel opposes bail and refers to the reply.

6. It would be appropriate to refer to the following portions of the reply, which read as follows:

*"The role of the petitioner.*

*Petitioner was the main assailant who initiated the attack on the complainant Angrej Singh in furtherance of a common intention with his co-accused. On 01.06.2025, when the complainant objected to the illegal acts of the petitioner regarding land in dispute, the petitioner armed with a spade (kassi/khurpa), dealt a blow towards the head of the complainant. The complainant raised his right hand to save himself, as a result of which the blow landed on his little finger and ring finger, causing two sharp-edged grievous injuries as certified in the Medico-Legal Report. The complainant was thereafter thrown to the ground, dragged by his hair and beaten, while co-accused gave kicks and fist blows."*

REASONING:

7. Allegations against the petitioner are serious in nature but considering the nature of injuries and the undertaking given by the petitioner, this Court deems it appropriate to grant him one opportunity to course correct.

8. The law of bail, like any other branch of law, has its own philosophy, and occupies an important place in the administration of justice and the concept of bail emerges from the conflict between the police power to restrict liberty of a man who is alleged to have committed a crime, and presumption of innocence in favour of the alleged criminal.<sup>1</sup> Personal liberty is a very precious fundamental right and it should be curtailed only when it becomes imperative according to the peculiar facts and circumstances of the case.<sup>2</sup> Personal liberty deprived when bail is refused, is too precious a value of our constitutional system recognised under Art. 21 that the curial power to negate it is a great trust exercisable, not casually, but judicially with lively concern for the cost to the individual and the community.<sup>3</sup>

9. The evidence might be prima facie sufficient to launch prosecution or to frame charges, but this Court is not considering the evidence at that stage, but is analyzing it for

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<sup>1</sup> Supreme Court of India in Vaman Narain Ghiya v. state of Rajasthan, [E-SCR] ; [2008] 17 SCR 369, Para 16, decided on 12.12.2008.

<sup>2</sup> Supreme Court of India in Siddharam Satlingappa Mhetre v. State of Maharashtra, SC 2J [E-SCR], Paragraph 127, decided on 02.12.2010.

<sup>3</sup> Supreme Court of India in Babu Singh & ors v. State of UP, [E-SCR] P. 777, decided on 31.01.1978.

CRM-M-41591-2025

the stage of anticipatory bail. An analysis of the above does not justify custodial interrogation or pre-trial incarceration.

10. Given the above, the penal provisions invoked coupled with the prima facie analysis of the nature of allegations and the other factors peculiar to this case, there would be no justifiability for custodial interrogation or the pre-trial incarceration at this stage.

11. Without commenting on the case's merits, in the facts and circumstances peculiar to this case, and for the reasons mentioned above, the petitioner makes a case for bail.

**CONDITIONS:**

12. Given above, provided the petitioner is not required in any other case, the petitioner shall be released on bail in the FIR captioned above subject to furnishing bonds to the satisfaction of the Arresting Officer, and if the matter is before a Court, then the concerned Court and due to unavailability before any nearest Ilaqa Magistrate/duty Magistrate. Before accepting the surety, the concerned Officer/Court must be satisfied that if the accused fails to appear, such surety can produce the accused.

13. While furnishing a personal bond, the petitioner shall mention the following personal identification details:

1.	AADHAR number	
2.	Passport number (If available) and when the attesting officer/court considers it appropriate or considers the accused a flight risk.	
3.	Mobile number (If available)	
4.	E-Mail id (If available)	

14. This order is subject to the petitioner's complying with the following terms. The petitioner shall abide by all statutory bond conditions and appear before the concerned Court(s) on all dates. The petitioner shall not tamper with the evidence, influence, browbeat, pressurize, induce, threaten, or promise, directly or indirectly, any witnesses, Police officials, or any other person acquainted with the facts and circumstances of the case or dissuade them from disclosing such facts to the Police or the Court.

15. The petitioner is directed to join the investigation within seven days of uploading this order on the official webpage of the High Court of Punjab and Haryana and as and when called by the Investigator. The petitioner shall be in deemed custody for Section 27 of the Indian Evidence Act, 1872/ Section 23 of BSA, 2023. The petitioner shall join the investigation as and when called by the Investigating Officer or any Superior Officer and shall cooperate with the investigation at all further stages as required. In the event of failure to do so, the prosecution will be open to seeking cancellation of the bail. During the investigation, the petitioner shall not be subjected to third-degree, indecent language, inhuman treatment, etc.

CRM-M-41591-2025

16. Given the nature of the allegations and the other circumstances peculiar to this case, the petitioner shall not enter the property, workplace, and residence of the victim until the statements of all non-official and informal witnesses in the trial are recorded. This Court is imposing this condition to rule out any attempt by the accused to incapacitate, influence, or cause any discomfort to the victim. Reference be made to *Vikram Singh v Central Bureau of Investigation*, 2018 All SCR (CrI.) 458; and *Aparna Bhatt v. The State of Madhya Pradesh*, 2021:INSC:192, 2021 SCC Online SC 230.

17. Given the background of allegations against the petitioner, it becomes paramount to protect the members of society, and incapacitating the accused would be one of the primary options until the filing of the closure report or discharge, or acquittal. Consequently, it would be appropriate to restrict the possession of firearms. [This restriction is being imposed based on the preponderance of the evidence of probability and not of evidence of certainty, i.e., beyond a reasonable doubt; and as such, it is not to be construed as an intermediate sanction]. Given the nature of the allegations and the other circumstances peculiar to this case, the petitioner shall surrender all weapons, firearms, and ammunition, if any, along with the arms license to the concerned authority within fifteen days of the uploading of this order on the official webpage of this Court and inform the Investigator of the compliance. However, subject to the Indian Arms Act, 1959, the petitioner shall be entitled to renew and reclaim them in case of acquittal in this case, provided otherwise permissible under the concerned rules. Restricting firearms would instill confidence in the victim(s), their families, and society; it would also restrain the accused from influencing the witnesses and repeating the offense.

18. The conditions mentioned above imposed by this court are to endeavor to reform and ensure the accused does not repeat the offense. In *Mohammed Zubair v. State of NCT of Delhi*, 2022:INSC:735 [Para 28], Writ Petition (Criminal) No 279 of 2022, Para 29, decided on July 20, 2022, A Three-Judge bench of Hon'ble Supreme Court holds that "The bail conditions imposed by the Court must not only have a nexus to the purpose that they seek to serve but must also be proportional to the purpose of imposing them. The courts, while imposing bail conditions must balance the liberty of the accused and the necessity of a fair trial. While doing so, conditions that would result in the deprivation of rights and liberties must be eschewed."

19. In case the Investigator/Officer-In-Charge of the concerned Police Station arraigns another section of any penal offense in this FIR, and if the new section prescribes a maximum sentence that is not greater than the sections mentioned above, then this bail order shall be deemed to have also been passed for the newly added section(s). However, suppose the newly inserted sections prescribe a sentence exceeding the maximum sentence prescribed in the sections mentioned above; then, in that case, the Investigator/Officer-In-Charge shall give the petitioner notice of a minimum of seven

CRM-M-41591-2025

days, providing an opportunity to avail the remedies available in law.

20. It is clarified that if the petitioner violates any bail condition, the State and/or the victim may file an application for bail cancellation before the trial court, which shall be competent to cancel the bail or add more conditions. Furthermore, if the petitioner moves for deletion or dilution of any bail conditions, the trial court is empowered to do so.

21. The significant consideration for granting bail is that the Court aims to give the petitioner another chance to course-correct, reform, and reintegrate into the community as an ideal citizen. To ensure that the petitioner also abides by the assurance made on the petitioner's behalf by not repeating the offence or indulging in any crime, it shall be desirable to impose the following additional condition.

22. This bail is conditional, with the foundational condition being that if the petitioner repeats the offense or commits any non-bailable offense which provides for a sentence of imprisonment for more than seven years, the State shall file an application to revoke this bail before the concerned Court having jurisdiction over this FIR, which shall have the authority to cancel this bail, and as per their discretion, they may cancel this bail.

23. Any observation made hereinabove is neither an expression of opinion on the case's merits nor shall the trial Court advert to these comments.

24. It is clarified that this bail order shall not be considered as a blanket bail order in any other matter and is only limited to granting bail in the FIR mentioned above.

25. A certified copy of this order would not be needed for furnishing bonds, and any Advocate for the Appellant-Accused can download this order along with case status from the official web page of this Court and attest it to be a true copy. If the attesting officer wants to verify its authenticity, such an officer can also verify its authenticity and may download and use the downloaded copy for attesting bonds.

26. **Petition allowed** in terms mentioned above. All pending applications, if any, stand disposed of.

(ANOOP CHITKARA)  
JUDGE

30.09.2025  
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Whether speaking/reasoned: Yes  
Whether reportable: No.