

and they disclosed the said information to the police officials. In the meanwhile, while searching the said dense forest area with the help of torch, at about 01:40 AM, they found some people armed with axes, knives and daah. They all were slaughtering cows. However, they managed to escape due to darkness. The complainant and his friend tried to catch them but could not succeed. From that place, slaughtered cows, beef, scale, motorcycle, modified cart, plastic polythenes and sharp weapons including axe, knives and daah were recovered. The complainant further stated that all the persons were non-Hindus. Their such act and conduct could raise fight between religious groups. Those persons were alleged to be habitual offenders as different FIRs were alleged to be already registered against them in different parts of Punjab. On the basis of this statement, the FIR in question was registered.

Learned counsel for petitioner has contended that the petitioners have been falsely involved in the present case. They were not apprehended at the spot. No alleged material has been recovered from the petitioners. There is nothing on record to show that the petitioners were involved in the offence in question. Learned counsel further urged that trial of the case is likely to take time. Therefore, the petitioners be granted concession of regular bail.

Learned State counsel, on the other hand, has opposed the present bail petition while contending that both the petitioners were found slaughtering cows at the place of occurrence and mutilated remains of cows along with blood stained weapons including axe and knife were recovered from the spot. He further urged that the petitioners have committed a heinous crime and such persons, who are habitual offenders and cruel

towards animals, cannot expect any leniency from the Courts. He prayed that the present petition deserves dismissal.

I have heard the learned counsel for the parties and have also gone through the case file.

The petitioners were not named in the FIR. Whether they were involved in commission of offence in question or not, is a matter of trial. As per the Custody Certificate, which has been placed on record, the petitioners are in custody since 16.04.2025. Challan has already been presented and trial is going on. Conclusion of trial is likely to take a long time. So, no useful purpose would be served by further detaining the petitioners behind the bars.

Accordingly, the present petition is allowed and the petitioners are ordered to be admitted on regular bail, on furnishing adequate bail bonds and surety bonds, to the satisfaction of concerned learned Trial Judge/Chief Judicial Magistrate/Duty Magistrate.

However, nothing observed herein above shall be construed to be an expression of opinion on the merits of the case. The observations recorded above are only for the purpose of deciding the present bail petition.

Pending application(s), if any, shall stand disposed of along with the present petition.

August 18, 2025
monika

(SUKHVINDER KAUR)
JUDGE

<i>Whether speaking/reasoned ?</i>	<i>Yes/No.</i>
<i>Whether reportable ?</i>	<i>Yes/No.</i>