



CRM-M-47875-2025

1

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

229

**CRM-M-47875-2025
Decided on :03.09.2025**

Manpreet Singh alias Manni

. . . Petitioner(s)

Versus

State of Haryana

. . . Respondent(s)

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY VASHISTH

Present: Mr. Namit Khurana, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. P.K. Jhanda, Sr. DAG, Punjab.

SANJAY VASHISTH, J. (Oral)

1. Petitioner-Manpreet Singh @ Manni, aged 24 years has filed the instant petition under Section 483 of BNSS, 2023 seeking regular bail in case FIR No.142 dated 17.04.2023, under Sections 307, 285, 323, 427, 34 and 506 IPC and Section 25 of Arms Act, registered at Police Station Ladwa, District Kurukshetra.

2. As per the contents of the FIR recorded on the statement made by one Hoshiar Singh s/o Punnu Ram, it has been alleged as under:

“ I am of the aforesaid name and address and besides agriculture work I do my transport business in Ladwa and yesterday on 16.4.2023, I had gone in my fields at village Halalpur in my Creta No.HR-90-6911, and after watering etc. in the fields, today on 17.4.23, in my aforesaid car via village Niwarsi in between Ramkundi Chowk, Ladwa to Indri



Chowk, when reached near Gurudwara Sahib, my real brother Sardev @ Bhashi and Abhishek son of Omvir and Vinod @ Bhoora son of Rameshwar and Sunny son of Rakesh, residents of Bhoot Majra on their M/C No.HR-07S- 0870 SPL and HR-07L-7670 Super SPL were standing on the side of the road. I after reaching near them stopped and I asked them the reason of coming here. Abhishek told me that yesterday on 16.4.23 during night at about 10.00 PM, I had received a phone from my number and called me at his house for talking. I. Abhishek and Sardev @ Bhashi after riding on a motorcycle and Vinod @ Bhoora and Sunny on second motorcycle, reached in village Badaunda near the house of Robin, then there Robin and his friend Hardik and two other boys were met, who started beating me and Robin fired two shots with the weapon having in his hand. There we had grappled and abuses there with them and in quarrel, injury was inflicted on the left arm of Sardev. We after getting Sardev medically examined in Government Hospital, Ladwa and after getting medicines, had been returning back to our village, you have come suddenly. Then I, after hearing Abhishek, asked them not to raise any quarrel and let's go to home and in the morning after sitting together we would talk. Then they all four on their M/C and I in the car started behind them and all of them had stopped at Hinori Road near OPG School, Ladwa on the turn for bathroom. On seeing their motorcycle, I had also stopped and then from Ladwa side, a white coloured Verna car came and went towards Hinori side and after some time, that very Verna car after coming near us, stopped and out of that car, Robin Badaunda and one boy, and Abhishek was talking with him with the name of Hardik Chawla and his two other accomplices alighted from the car. Robin was having a country made pistol in his hand and with intention to kill me, he fired on me, which was hit in my right Vakhi and Hardik fired many shots with the country made pistol having in his hand on my car. One fire hit on the bonnet of my car and second fire hit on the backside both the windows and other fires hit on the glasses of the car and



remaining persons caused damages my car as well as both the motorcycles with Danda, Bindas and rods and Abhishek etc. ran towards the nearby street out of fear. They after chasing them, had also caused beatings to them in the street, in which Abhishek suffered injuries on both his legs, both hands, right arm and many other parts of his body. Then Robin etc. After threatening us to kill, alongwith their respective weapons, after boarding in their Verna car fled away from the spot and I can identify them if brought before me. Robin etc. alongwith their accomplices, after firing upon us, after opening killing assault, have caused us injuries. Legal action may be taken against them”

3. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that, as per the contents of the FIR, main allegations are against co-accused Robin, who is specifically stated to have fired shots from a pistol. Another co-accused, Hardik Chawla, who is also alleged to have fired shots, one of which struck the bonnet of the complainant’s car, has already been granted the concession of regular bail by this Court. In this regard, learned counsel refers to the order dated 21.11.2023 passed in CRM-M-51951-2023 (P-5).

Learned counsel Mr. Namit Khurana, Advocate further contends that name of the petitioner is not mentioned in the FIR, and his involvement surfaced subsequently, based solely on the alleged disclosure statement of co-accused Hardik Chawla, who is already on bail. Even in the said disclosure statement, no specific role has been attributed to the petitioner, either in terms of causing injuries or actively participating in the commission of the offence.

It is further submitted that petitioner is in custody since 15.02.2025, and the recording of prosecution evidence is yet to



CRM-M-47875-2025

4

commence, as charges are scheduled to be framed on 16.09.2025. Thus, learned counsel submits that culmination of the trial is likely to take a considerable amount of time; therefore, prays for the grant of regular bail.

4. Learned State counsel, however, opposes the prayer for bail and submits that there are nine other criminal cases registered against the petitioner, reflecting his habitual criminal conduct. It is contended that petitioner is a repeat offender and granting him regular bail in the present case may embolden him to commit further offences and would not serve the ends of justice. Learned State counsel further submit that offences in the present case are of a serious and grave nature, involving firearms and an attempt to murder, and releasing the petitioner at this stage could pose a threat to public peace and safety. Therefore, prays for dismissal of present petition.

5. Faced with the above submission, learned counsel for the petitioner contends that it is precisely due to petitioner's prior acquaintance with the local police, owing to his alleged involvement in other cases, that he has been falsely implicated in the present matter. It is argued that petitioner has been roped in without any direct evidence or specific allegations against him, merely because of his antecedents.

To support his contention, learned counsel places reliance on the judgment in *Prabhakar Tewari v. State of U.P. and Another, 2020(1) RCR (Criminal) 831*, wherein it was held that mere involvement in other criminal cases cannot, by itself, be a ground for denial of bail, especially

**CRM-M-47875-2025****5**

in the absence of any substantive material connecting the accused to the commission of the present offence.

6. I have heard learned counsel for the parties. Without commenting on the merits of the case, and considering the period already undergone by the petitioner in custody, coupled with the fact that there is no direct allegation of causing any injury or playing an active role in the incident, this Court does not find any substantial reason to deny the concession of regular bail to the petitioner.

7. Consequently, prayer made in the present petition is allowed. Petitioner is ordered to be released on bail, subject to his furnishing bail/surety bonds to the satisfaction of the learned trial Court/ Chief Judicial Magistrate/Illaqa Magistrate/ Duty Magistrate concerned, if not required in any other case.

8. Any of the discussion done and recorded hereabove, shall not be construed as an expression of opinion on the facts of the case. Therefore, trial Court is expected to decide the case by taking an independent view, on the basis of evidence available on record, as expeditiously as possible in accordance with law.

9. Petition stands disposed of.

(SANJAY VASHISTH)
JUDGE

03.09.2025*Rashmi*

Whether speaking/reasoned: Yes/No
Whether Reportable: Yes/No