

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

CRM-M-55472-2022 (O&M)
Date of Decision: 01.06.2023

Manpreet Singh

....Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

....Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HARNARESH SINGH GILL

Present: Mr. Amandeep Singh Chhabra, Advocate,
for the petitioner.

Ms. Ishma Randhawa, Additional AG, Punjab.

HARNARESH SINGH GILL, J.

By way of the present second petition, the petitioner seeks regular bail in case bearing FIR No. 103 dated 24.08.2021, registered under Sections 307, 323 and 324 IPC, at Police Station Nehianwala, District Bathinda, the first one having been dismissed as withdrawn on 07.07.2022.

Custody certificate dated 30.05.2023 produced in Court, is taken on record.

Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that though the petitioner is alleged to have inflicted three injuries with knife on the person of Sukhmander Singh, brother of the complainant, yet the fact remains that the petitioner has been in custody since 25.08.2021. It is further submitted that out of 19 prosecution witnesses, only two witnesses, including the complainant, have been examined so far. It is yet further

submitted that there is no other case pending or registered against the petitioner.

On the other hand, learned State counsel, opposes the bail petition on the ground that the petitioner had caused multiple injuries on the person of Sukhmander Singh, brother of the complainant. She further states that the material witnesses are yet to be examined and, thus, the petitioner does not deserve the concession of bail.

I have heard the learned counsel for the parties and have also gone through the paper book.

The petitioner is alleged to have given three injuries with knife on the person of injured-Sukhmander Singh. However, the fact remains that the petitioner has been in custody since 25.08.2021 i.e. more than one year and nine months. 17 prosecution witnesses are yet to be examined. The trial would take a long time to conclude and, thus, no useful purpose would be served by keeping the petitioner behind the bars.

In view of the above, without expressing any opinion on the merits of the case, lest it should prejudice the case of either side, the present petition is allowed. The petitioner is ordered to be released on bail subject to his furnishing surety/bail bonds to the satisfaction of the Trial Court.

01.06.2023
ds

(HARNARESH SINGH GILL)
JUDGE

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