

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

(107)

CRWP-2579-2024

Date of decision: - 21.03.2024

Harmeet Singh

....Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab and others

.....Respondents

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VIKAS BAHL

Present:- Dr. Anmol Rattan Sidhu, Senior Advocate, with
Mr. Gursher Singh Dhillon, Advocate, and
Mr. Harlove Singh Rajput, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. TPS Walia, AAG, Punjab.

VIKAS BAHL, J. (ORAL)

1. Present criminal writ petition has been filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India for issuance of a writ in the nature of mandamus directing the respondents to protect the life and liberty of the petitioner by providing adequate security of police personnel to the petitioner.

2. Learned senior counsel for the petitioner has submitted that the petitioner is a three times ex-MLA from Tarn Taran Constituency and remained Chief Parliamentary Secretary. It is further submitted that the security of the petitioner has been reduced to the extent of two security guards and as per the information of the petitioner, the same was also sought to be withdrawn in spite of the fact that incidents of killing are increasing in District Tarn Taran. It is stated that a politically active

person, namely, Awan Kumar Khullar @ Sonu Cheema was killed in broad daylight on 14.01.2024 and as per the police investigation, the said murder was orchestrated by Germany based gangster Amritpal Singh Batth and the said gangster has uploaded threatening videos on social media whereby he has named the present petitioner as one of the targets. It is further stated that another prominent political leader belonging to the ruling party, Gurpreet Singh @ Gopi Chola was also shot dead on 01.03.2024 by three unidentified gangsters. It is submitted that for the grievances raised by the petitioner, the petitioner has given a representation dated 18.01.2024 (Annexure P-7) to the Additional Director General of Police (Security) Punjab-respondent No.3 and at this stage, the petitioner would be satisfied in case respondent No.3 considers the said representation and after taking into consideration the latest security threat to the petitioner, takes an appropriate action including providing adequate security to the petitioner in accordance with law. It is further prayed that till the time the said decision is taken by respondent No.3, two security guards, which have been provided to the petitioner, be not withdrawn.

3. Learned counsel appearing for the respondent-State has submitted that respondent No.3 would consider the said representation dated 18.01.2024 (Annexure P-7) and after assessing the threat perception to the petitioner, would take appropriate action in accordance with law.

4. Keeping in view the above-said facts and circumstances, the present writ petition is disposed of with a direction to respondent No.3 to consider the representation dated 18.01.2024 (Annexure P-7), within a

period of one month from the date of receipt of a certified copy of this order and after assessing the threat perception to the petitioner, would take appropriate action in accordance with law and till the time the said decision is taken on the representation, the respondent authorities would not withdraw the security, which has been provided to the petitioner. After due consideration of the representation dated 18.01.2024 (Annexure P-7), the decision taken on the same be communicated to the petitioner within the aforesaid period of one month.

5. It is made clear that this Court has not opined on the merits of the case and the respondent authorities would consider and decide the matter independently, in accordance with law.

March 21, 2024
naresh.k

(VIKAS BAHL)
JUDGE

Whether reasoned/speaking?	Yes/No
Whether reportable?	Yes/No