



CRM-M-11916-2025

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

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**CRM-M-11916-2025
Decided on :17.07.2025**

Arshdeep Singh

... Petitioner(s)

Versus

State of Punjab

... Respondent(s)

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY VASHISTH

Present: Mr. G.S. Bawa, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Manjinder Singh Bhullar, DAG, Punjab.

Mr. Shivender Singh, Advocate for the complainant.

SANJAY VASHISTH, J. (Oral)

1. Present petition has been filed under Section 483 of BNSS seeking regular bail in case FIR No.257 dated 11.10.2024, under Section 302 IPC, registered at Police Station Jandiala, District Amritsar Rural(P-1).

2. Learned counsel for the petitioner argues that, as per the FIR, the deceased, Varappan Singh, aged 22 years, had been running a gym in Village Khujala for the past 1.5 years after completing his 12th standard. On 28.12.2023, Varappan Singh left his house on his motorcycle bearing registration No. PB-02-DD-3983, stating that he was going to the gym. Later, his dead body was found lying in a drain. Consequently, a Daily Diary Report (DDR) was registered on

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29.12.2023, without naming the petitioner or raising any suspicion against him.

Learned counsel further submits that it was only after filing of the petition before the Hon'ble High Court, wherein, inaction by the police in the already recorded DDR was pleaded and also upon the recording supplementary statement of the complainant Avtar Singh, that the present FIR was registered on 11.10.2024 against the petitioner. Counsel further contends that there is no connecting evidence showing involvement of the petitioner in the crime of alleged murder, except of the bald allegation that Varappan Singh was killed by the petitioner, due to an outstanding amount of Rs. 4 lakhs owed to the deceased.

Referring to the status report, learned counsel for the petitioner states that during investigation, prosecution recorded the statement of one Gurjinder Singh, former Sarpanch of the village, stating therein that on 19.10.2024, petitioner had confessed his guilt before him on 10.10.2024, whereas, petitioner had already been arrested on 11.10.2024, which casts doubt on the credibility of the alleged extra-judicial confession.

It is also submitted that no suspicion was expressed against the petitioner even during the conducting of inquest proceedings under Section 174 Cr.P.C.

Counsel further argues that to establish a charge under Section 302 IPC, there must be complete and unbroken chain of events and the related circumstances, which is lacking in the present case. He

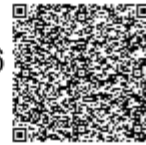


submits that though charges have been framed, but trial has yet to commence. Thus, he prays for the grant of regular bail.

3. Learned State counsel has filed status report by way of an affidavit of Ravinder Singh, PPS, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Sub Division Jandiala, Amritsar (Rural), on behalf of respondent-State. Same is taken on record. Registry is directed to tag the same at appropriate place with the paper-book.

Learned State Counsel, assisted by Mr. Shivender Singh, learned counsel for the complainant, submits that the petitioner is involved in a serious offence, and that there is sufficient material on the record to connect him with the crime. Further submits that alleged extrajudicial confession before Ex-Sarpanch Gurjinder Singh, coupled with the motive is enough to assume the guilt accused. Strong reliance is placed on the supplementary statement of the complainant and the statement of Gurjinder Singh.

4. Having considered the rival submissions, and taking into account the fact that the petitioner has been in custody for 08 months and 27 days, with no other criminal antecedents, and further noticing that trial is yet to commence, this Court views that the chain of events and connecting circumstances are yet to be established at the time of leading evidence. Accordingly, this Court finds merit in the petitioner's prayer for the grant of regular bail.

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The petitioner's right to personal liberty, particularly in light of his clean antecedents in past and case being of circumstantial evidence, should not be curtailed.

5. 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/Illaq Magistrate/ Duty Magistrate concerned, if not required in any other case.

6. 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.

7. Petition stands disposed of.

(SANJAY VASHISTH)
JUDGE

17.07.2025*Rashmi*

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