



CRM-M-16095-2025

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

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Decided on :26.05.2025

Manjit Kaur

... Petitioner(s)

Versus

State of Punjab

... Respondent(s)

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY VASHISTH

Present: Mr. Sandeep Verma, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Manjinder Singh Bhullar, DAG, Punjab.

SANJAY VASHISTH, J. (Oral)

1. Present petition has been filed under Section 483 of BNSS, seeking regular bail in case FIR No.111 dated 29.06.2024, under Sections 302, 307, 379-B, 332, 333, 186, 353, 342, 148, 149 and 201 IPC, registered at Police Station Dharamkot.

2. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the shots were fired by the main assailants, namely Harpreet Singh @ Happy and Dharampreet Singh @ Dharma, who are yet to be arrested. The name of the petitioner does not appear in the FIR, nor there is any specific allegations made against her. Her alleged involvement is based solely on the disclosure statement of co-accused Avtar Singh, which, it is argued, is not admissible in evidence under the law. Counsel further submits that the petitioner has been in custody since 30.06.2024, and that a similarly situated co-accused, Paramjit Kaur, has already been granted interim anticipatory bail by this Hon'ble Court vide order dated 20.05.2025 in



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CRM-M-27837-2025. On these grounds, the petitioner prays for the grant of regular bail.

3. On the other hand, learned State counsel opposes the prayer for bail, submitting that the petitioner is involved in a serious offence. Learned State counsel also expresses concern that if the petitioner is released on bail, she may try to influence witnesses or interfere with the trial. However, learned State counsel does not dispute the fact that a similarly placed co-accused, Paramjit Kaur, has already been granted interim anticipatory bail. Even so, the State prays for dismissal of the present petition.

4. Heard learned counsel for the parties and perused the material available on record. It is observed that the petitioner's alleged involvement arises solely from a disclosure statement, which is not admissible as substantive evidence in the eyes of law. Further, considering that the petitioner has been in custody for approximately eleven months, and in light of the parity with the similarly situated co-accused, this Court is of the view that the matter warrants consideration for grant of regular bail.

This Court is also of the view that petitioner deserves an opportunity to rehabilitate and reintegrate into society. Thus, without making any comments or observations on the quality/standard of the evidence collected by the prosecution, primarily considering the long incarceration and non-examination of the material witnesses, to the view

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point of this Court, personal liberty of the petitioner cannot be curtailed for an indefinite period.

5. Considering the aspects and circumstances, prayer made in the present petition is allowed. Petitioner is ordered to be released on bail, subject to her 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.

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. It is further made clear that if in future petitioner is found indulged in similar kind of activities, prosecution would be at liberty to seek cancellation of bail in the present case.

8. Petition stands disposed of.

9. Pending application(s), if any, shall stands disposed of accordingly.

(SANJAY VASHISTH)
JUDGE

26.05.2025*Rashmi*

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