



IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

229

CRWP-6156-2025 (O&M)
Date of decision: 28.10.2025

MANOJ KUMAR UPPAL ALIAS MANU AND ANOTHER

.....Petitioners

VERSUS

STATE OF PUNJAB AND OTHERS

.....Respondents

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VINOD S. BHARDWAJ

Present: - Mr. Ashok Saini, Advocate
for the petitioners.

Mr. Mohit Kapoor, Senior DAG, Punjab.

VINOD S. BHARDWAJ, J. (Oral)

The present petition has been filed for seeking directions to the respondents to provide security to the petitioners and their family members as they apprehend danger to their lives at the hands of the gangsters.

2. Learned Counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioner contends that the petitioner No.1 Manoj Kumar is working as a Commission Agent and is also running the business of food processing. He also takes care of joint Rice Sheller with his brother (petitioner No.2) under the name and style of M/s Asha Agro. Counsel contends that the family has been receiving threatening calls from different international numbers and that demand of

money by way of extortion has been raised. They have also seen several suspicious activities and persons outside their residences/commercial establishment. He submits that in the phone calls received from the foreign numbers, the caller had identified himself as Gurdev Singh Jaisal, a known Gangster in police record, who had been arrested in California, USA and was found in possession of illegal arms and illegal vehicles. Hence, the extortionist being a dreaded gangster stands well established. The apprehensions of the petitioner were thus based on cogent material and is not based on misplaced fears.

3. Respondent-State was called upon to file reply in terms of the allegations leveled by the petitioner after verifying the same.

4. Status report dated 14.07.2025, by way of an affidavit of Maninder Singh, IPS, Senior Superintendent of Police, Amritsar had been filed. As per the averments contained in the said affidavit, the allegations leveled by the petitioner were verified and an inquiry was conducted. The FIR pertaining to the incident had also been registered and that two persons have also been arrested in the same. It was averred that as per their evaluation and assessment of the threat, there is a currently negative threat perception, however, notwithstanding the same, a temporary/interim measure by way of providing one Police Security Officer to the petitioners each, for a period of 35 days, had been issued. The relevant extract of the said status report reads thus:-

“5. That as per the complaint given by the petitioner no.2, the complainant/petitioner No.2 stated that on 18.11.2024, while he was present at his relative's place in Sathila Mandi, then at around 2:00 PM, he received a threatening WhatsApp voice message from number +44-7351307476 on his phone number 98156-

48263, wherein the sender identified himself as Jaisal Chamblawala, and demanded money by threatening him. Further, on 23.11.2024 at around 12:43 PM, Petitioner No.2 was intimated by petitioner No. 1 about the new message received by Petitioner No. 1, thus petitioner No.1 forwarded the said voice message from his mobile No.9878000608 to the Mobile/whatsapp of petitioner No.2. The said voice message dated 23.11.2024 was received by petitioner No.1 from number +44-7387306820, stating that the complainant's brother (Referred as petitioner no.2) is not answering my calls, ask him to answer my calls otherwise he will kill/harm both of the brothers/petitioners. That on the basis of the abovesaid facts and statement, FIR No.249 (Supra) was registered, in accordance with law.

6. That during investigation, Gyan Kaur and Harinder Kaur were nominated as accused vide DDR No. 34 dated 11.03.2025 and subsequently arrested on 12.03.2025.

7. That on further investigation, based on inputs from a secret informer, it was revealed that Balwinder Singh @ Doni had formed a gang with his associates, including Paramjit Kaur and Jagroop Singh, to extort money from the public. Both were accordingly nominated as accused in the FIR vide DDR No. 14 dated 11.04.2025 and efforts are being made to locate and arrest them.

8. That the challan/report under Section 193 of the BNSS was submitted before the Learned Trial Court on 29.04.2025. That thereafter the Ld. Sub-Divisional Judicial Magistrate, Baba Bakala, District Amritsar, passed the order dated 07.05.2025 for commitment and forwarded the case to the Ld. Sessions Court, in accordance with law. The charge in the present case has not been framed yet and the Ld. Sessions Court, Amritsar has adjourned the case for argument for 07.08.2025.

9. *That after passing of the abovesaid order dated 10.06.2025, a fresh threat perception was analyzed in accordance with law. After the scrutiny of the latest threat conducted by Deputy Superintendent of Police, Sub- Division Baba Bakala dated 12.07.2025 to the petitioners on the basis of the available information/record as well as the secret sources, it has been found that presently, both the petitioners are not facing any threats to their life or liberty and have not received any latest threat calls since the last incident and after the registration of FIR No.249 (Supra) and arrest of the two accused in the same. Therefore, based on latest threat perception, no further police protection is deemed necessary at this stage.*

However, both the petitioners Manoj Kumar Uppal @ Manu and Harshankar Uppal have been provided one police security officer, HC Sukhwinder Singh No. 143, with the deployment for a period of 35 days vide DDR No. 25 dated 18.06.2025, along with a rifle, for temporary/interim measures, even though their latest threat perception has been evaluated to be negative. On the other hand, the Station House Officer, as well as PCR have been directed to keep a regular check and regular patrolling near the residence of the petitioners.

10. That the petitioners have also been provided with contact details of the Deputy Superintendent of Police, Sub-Division Baba Bakala, District Amritsar (Rural), PCR and Control Room numbers, so they may contact authorities in case of any emergency and action can be taken, in accordance with law.”

5. I have heard learned Counsel appearing on behalf of the parties and have gone through the documents appended alongwith the present petition.

6. It is evident that insofar as the allegations leveled by the petitioners in the present case is concerned, the same have been verified by the respondents to be credible thus giving rise to a tangible apprehension in the minds of the petitioner with respect to safety and security of his family. The respondent-State has however, evaluated the material whereupon the current situation is found to be negative, yet, temporary measures have been put in place to ensure safety and security of life and liberty of the petitioner and members of his family. Even the SHO as well as the PCR have also been directed to ensure that there is regular patrolling around the house and establishment of the petitioner.

7. I find that in view of the aforesaid status report filed, the security arrangements based on the assessment of threat perception seem adequate. This Court has no other material to differ from the State assessment.

8. The present petition is hence disposed of at this stage since no further directions are necessary. It is, however, directed that the respondents shall carry out a proper evaluation and in the event of any fresh threat incidents being reported, the same shall also be taken into consideration by the respondents for re-assessing the threat apprehensions of the petitioner and appropriate measures shall be put in place to ensure safety of the life and liberty of the petitioners and the member of their family.

Petition is disposed of.

(VINOD S. BHARDWAJ)
JUDGE

OCTOBER 28, 2025
Vishal Sharma

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