

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

311

CRM-M-35540-2024

Date of decision: 13th January, 2025

Ranbir @ Ranvir Singh

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Haryana

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE MANISHA BATRA

Present: Mr. Baljeet Beniwal, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Neeraj Poswal, AAG, Haryana.

MANISHA BATRA, J (ORAL):-

The present petition has been filed under Section 483 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (for short 'BNSS') by the petitioner seeking grant of regular bail in case bearing FIR No. 62 dated 13.02.2014 registered under Sections 302 and 201 of IPC, 1860 and Section 25 of Arms Act (Sections 212 and 120-B of IPC added later on) at Police Station Hodal, District Palwal.

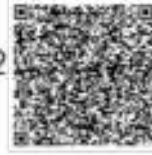
2. As per the allegations on 13.02.2014, the dead body of the victim Attar Singh was found lying in a car bearing registration No. DL1VB-7159 which was found entangled in a drain in the area of Hassanpur Chowk, Hodal. The dead body had cuts in the neck. One blood stained knife was found lying on the rear seat of the vehicle. After registration of FIR, investigation proceedings were initiated. The dead body was then identified by the family of the victim. Inquest proceedings and post mortem



examination of the dead body were conducted. On the basis of call detail record, the accused Amit Gupta was apprehended. The accused Ashish Gupta was arrested on 31.05.2024. He was interrogated and suffered disclosure statement admitting the involvement of the present petitioner, co-accused Virender Singh Bisht @ Bir Singh Rawat, Ravi Kumar and himself in commission of offence of murder of the victim by hatching the conspiracy and about causing disappearance of evidence of offence, on the basis of which the present petitioner was nominated as an accused. He was arrested on 14.03.2023. He too suffered disclosure statement admitting his involvement in the crime and demarcated the places involved in the occurrence. Investigation has since been completed and the petitioner along with the co-accused is facing trial for commission of the aforementioned offences.

3. The present petition has been filed by the petitioner on the grounds and it is argued by his counsel that he has been falsely implicated in this case. He was not named in the FIR. No specific act qua committing murder of the victim has been attributed to him, whereas as per the prosecution case, the co-accused had killed the victim. Material witnesses namely PW-4 Sanjay and PW-6 Ajit Singh have not supported the prosecution version. There is no eye-witness to the occurrence. The case is based on circumstantial evidence. The trial is likely to take time since only seven witnesses have been examined till date. Therefore, it is urged that he deserves to be released on bail.

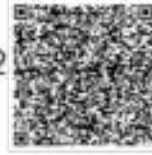
4. Status report has been filed by respondent-State. It is submitted therein and it is argued by learned Assistant Advocate General, Haryana that



there are serious allegations against the petitioner. His involvement in the subject crime stands *prima facie* established in view of the disclosure statements made by the co-accused as well as the petitioner himself. The trial is going on at a proper pace and there is nothing on record to suggest that there would be any undue delay in conclusion of the same. The petitioner had avoided his arrest for a fair long time and was even declared a proclaimed person. There are chances of his absconding, if extended benefit of bail. Hence, it is urged that he does not deserve to be extended benefit of bail.

5. I have heard learned counsel for the parties at considerable length and have gone through the record carefully.

6. The petitioner is alleged to have hatched a conspiracy with the co-accused and in pursuance thereof to have killed the victim (who was a taxi driver) by hiring his vehicle on 12.04.2014 and making him consume liquor and then eliminating him. As per the allegations, he was driving the car of the victim at the time of occurrence, whereas the co-accused Virender Singh had struck blows on the person of the victim thereby causing his death. There are serious allegations against the petitioner. Trial is going at a proper pace. The occurrence took place in the year 2014, whereas the petitioner was arrested only on 14.03.2023 i.e. after a period of about nine years. The apprehension that he might abscond again cannot be stated to be unfounded. The petitioner has placed on record copies of sworn depositions of PW-4 Sanjay who was a witness to alleged making of extra judicial confession by the co-accused Ashish and PW-6 Ajit Singh, brother of the victim, who was a witness to recovery of shopping card of the victim at the



instance of accused Ashish Gupta. Both these witnesses have not made any incriminating statement as against the present petitioner. However, simply because of that fact, it cannot be assumed that the petitioner is entitled to be released on bail. Keeping in view the nature of the allegations as levelled against the petitioner, quantum of sentence which the conviction may entail and the attendant facts and circumstances of the case but without meaning to make any comment on the merits thereof, I am of the considered opinion that the petition does not deserve to be allowed. Hence, the same is dismissed.

7. Since the main petition has been dismissed, pending application, if any, is rendered infructuous.

[MANISHA BATRA]
JUDGE

13th January, 2025

Parveen Sharma

1. *Whether speaking/ reasoned*
2. *Whether reportable*

: *Yes / No*
: *Yes / No*