

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA  
AT CHANDIGARH

CRM-M-58691-2024  
Reserved on: 07.01.2025  
Pronounced on: 23.01.2025

Ranjeet Singh alias Pamma ...Petitioner

Versus

State of Haryana ...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ANOOP CHITKARA

Present: Mr. Gurvinder Singh Sidhu, Advocate  
for the petitioner.

Mr. Aashish Bishnoi, DAG, Haryana.

Mr. Sushil Kumar Verma, Advocate  
for the complainant.

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ANOOP CHITKARA, J.

| FIR No. | Dated      | Police Station           | Sections                   |
|---------|------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 439     | 30.06.2024 | Rania, District<br>Sirsa | 323/324/326/34 and 506 IPC |

1. The petitioner incarcerated in the FIR captioned above has come up before this Court under Section 483 of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, [BNSS], seeking regular bail.
2. In paragraph 16 of the bail petition, the accused declares that he has no criminal antecedents.
3. The facts and allegations are being taken from the status report filed by the State, which reads as follows:

“2. That brief facts of the case FIR No.439 dated 30.6.2024 U/s 323/324/147/149/506/326 IPC, P.S. Rania was registered on the statement of Paramjit Singh son of Pargat Singh who has alleged that, "I am a resident of the abovementioned address and I work as a farmer, on 19.6.2024 at 7:30 am, I and my brother Chhinder Singh had gone to the field to get fodder for the animals. When we were cutting fodder, Pamma Singh, Bagga Singh sons of Sulkhan Singh and Sulkhan Singh and Jinder Singh and Karan Singh, Virendra Singh sons of Bagga Singh

*and Suraj son of Jinder, residents of Kuttabad came and Pamma, Jinder Singh and Bagga had swords, Karan and Virendra had axes and others had sticks, who attacked me and my family as soon as they came. They started fighting and assaulting my brother Chhinder Singh and Pamma hit me with a sword, which hit my right palm and head and also hit my brother Chhinder's right leg and head and also hit my brother's left hand. After this, all of them kept on beating me and my brother due to which both our brothers got badly injured. When we raised an alarm, our farmer neighbours Ranjeet son of Karnail Singh and Amrik Singh son of Kashmir Singh, residents of Kuttabadh, who were working in their fields, came on hearing our noise. Seeing them coming, they ran away and while leaving threatened us that today we have been saved, but in future they will not leave us. All of them together have injured our both brothers. There was a lot of altercation between them regarding our pipeline, due to which they injured us".*

4. The petitioner's counsel prays for bail by imposing any stringent conditions and contends that further pre-trial incarceration would cause an irreversible injustice to the petitioner and their family.

5. The State's counsel opposes bail and refers to the status report.

6. It would be appropriate to refer to the following portions of the status report, which read as follows:

*"3. That the investigation of the case has been conducted by SI Rajbir Singh. As per the MLR of injured Paramjit Singh, he sustained three injuries, out of which Injury no. 1 advised X-ray and Ortho opinion, Injury no.2 advised C.T Head and Surgeon opinion and Injury no.3 advised X- ray and Ortho Opinion. Further as per MLR of Chhinder Singh, he sustained five injuries, out of which Injuries no. 1,2,4,5 are advised X- ray and Injury no.3 for C.T head and Surgeon opinion. Copies of the MLRs of the injured Paramjit Singh and Chhinder Singh are attached as Annexure R-1 & R-2."*

7. As stated in paragraph 8 of the status report, the sword used in the assault has been recovered from the petitioner.

8. It is most significant to refer to para 10 of the status report, which reads as

follows:

*“10. That during the course of further investigation of the case, statement of the persons from the neighboring area were recorded and they sworn their affidavit whereby the suspect namely I) Virender Singh, ii) Karan Singh sons of Bagga Singh @ Dharmender, iii) Suraj Singh son of Jinder Singh @ Rajinder Singh, iv) Sulakhan Singh son of Kishan Singh were not found involved in the occurrence and they were found innocent. Only the present petitioner alongwith Dharmender @ Bagga and Rajinder Singh @ Jinder Singh were found involved for the commission of offence. Section 147/149 IPC were deleted and section 34 IPC was added in this case.”*

9. A perusal of the para 10 points towards the complainant's attempt to falsely implicate many members of the petitioner's family which creates doubt about his credibility and the possibility of exaggerations in the allegations against the petitioner can also be not ruled out, and on this ground alone, the petitioner's bail cannot be denied.

10. There is sufficient prima facie evidence connecting the petitioner with the alleged crime. However, pre-trial incarceration should not be a replica of post-conviction sentencing.

11. Per paragraph 11 of the bail petition, the petitioner has been in custody since 03.09.2024.

12. Given the penal provisions invoked viz-a-viz pre-trial custody, coupled with the prima facie analysis of the nature of allegations and the other factors peculiar to this case, there would be no justifiability for further pre-trial incarceration at this stage.

13. Without commenting on the case's merits, in the facts and circumstances peculiar to this case, and for the reasons mentioned above, the petitioner makes a case for bail. This order shall come into force from the time it is uploaded on this Court's official webpage.

14. Given above, provided the petitioner is not required in any other case, the petitioner shall be released on bail in the FIR captioned above subject to furnishing bonds to the satisfaction of the concerned Court and due to unavailability before any nearest Ilaqa Magistrate/duty Magistrate. Before accepting the surety, the concerned Court must be satisfied that if the accused fails to appear, such surety can produce the accused.

15. While furnishing a personal bond, the petitioner shall mention the following personal identification details:

|    |                                                                                                                                      |  |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| 1. | AADHAR number                                                                                                                        |  |
| 2. | Passport number (If available) and when the attesting officer/court considers it appropriate or considers the accused a flight risk. |  |
| 3. | Mobile number (If available)                                                                                                         |  |
| 4. | E-Mail id (If available)                                                                                                             |  |

16. This order is subject to the petitioner’s complying with the following terms.

17. The petitioner shall abide by all statutory bond conditions and appear before the concerned Court(s) on all dates. The petitioner shall not tamper with the evidence, influence, browbeat, pressurize, induce, threaten, or promise, directly or indirectly, any witnesses, Police officials, or any other person acquainted with the facts and circumstances of the case or dissuade them from disclosing such facts to the Police or the Court.

18. Given the nature of the allegations and the other circumstances peculiar to this case, the petitioner shall not enter the property, workplace, and residence of the victim until the statements of all non-official and informal witnesses in the trial are recorded. This Court is imposing this condition to rule out any attempt by the accused to incapacitate, influence, or cause any discomfort to the victim. Reference be made to *Vikram Singh v Central Bureau of Investigation*, 2018 All SCR (CrI.) 458); and *Aparna Bhatt v. The State of Madhya Pradesh*, 2021:INSC:192, 2021 SCC Online SC 230.

19. Given the background of allegations against the petitioner, it becomes paramount to protect the victim, and their family members, as well as the members of society, and incapacitating the accused would be one of the primary options until the filing of the closure report or discharge, or acquittal. Consequently, it would be appropriate to restrict the possession of firearm(s). [This restriction is being imposed based on the preponderance of evidence of probability and not of evidence of certainty, i.e., beyond reasonable doubt; and as such, it is not to be construed as an intermediate sanction]. Given the nature of the allegations and the other circumstances peculiar to this case, the petitioner shall surrender all weapons, firearms, and ammunition, if any, along with the arms license to the concerned authority within fifteen days from release from prison and inform the Investigator about the compliance. However, subject to the Indian Arms Act, 1959, the petitioner shall be entitled to renew and take it back in case of acquittal in this case, provided otherwise permissible in the concerned rules. Restricting firearms would instill confidence in the victim(s), their families, and society; it would also restrain the accused from influencing the witnesses and repeating the offense.

20. The conditions mentioned above imposed by this court are to endeavor to reform

and ensure the accused does not repeat the offense. In Mohammed Zubair v. State of NCT of Delhi, 2022:INSC:735 [Para 28], Writ Petition (Criminal) No 279 of 2022, Para 29, decided on July 20, 2022, A Three-Judge bench of Hon'ble Supreme Court holds that "The bail conditions imposed by the Court must not only have a nexus to the purpose that they seek to serve but must also be proportional to the purpose of imposing them. The courts, while imposing bail conditions must balance the liberty of the accused and the necessity of a fair trial. While doing so, conditions that would result in the deprivation of rights and liberties must be eschewed."

21. *This bail is conditional, and the foundational condition is that if the petitioner indulges in any non-bailable offense, the State shall file an application for cancellation of this bail before the Sessions Court, which shall be at liberty to cancel this bail.*

22. Any observation made hereinabove is neither an expression of opinion on the case's merits nor shall the trial Court advert to these comments.

23. A certified copy of this order would not be needed for furnishing bonds, and any Advocate for the Petitioner can download this order along with case status from the official web page of this Court and attest it to be a true copy. If the attesting officer wants to verify its authenticity, such an officer can also verify its authenticity and may download and use the downloaded copy for attesting bonds.

24. Petition allowed in terms mentioned above. All pending applications, if any, stand disposed of.

(ANOOP CHITKARA)  
JUDGE

23.01.2025  
Jyoti Sharma

Whether speaking/reasoned: Yes  
Whether reportable: No.