

S. No.232

2025:PHHC:173706



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

**CRM-M-61993 of 2025
Date of Decision:11.12.2025**

**Ravi Maninder Singh
Vs.
State of Punjab**

**.....Petitioner

.....Respondent**

CORAM:- HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE YASHVIR SINGH RATHOR

Present:- Mr. Ramdeep Partap Singh, Advocate and
Mr. Sahil Koul, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Gorav Kathuria, DAG, Punjab.

Yashvir Singh Rathor, J. (Oral)

1. This is second petition filed under Section 483 of BNSS, 2023, seeking concession of regular bail in case FIR No.98 dated 29.08.2024 registered under Sections 109, 132, 262, 221 of BNS and Sections 25, 54 and 59 of Arms Act, 1959 at Police Station Dera Baba Nanak, District Batala, Punjab.

2. The present FIR was registered on 29.08.2025 against accused Ravi Maninder Singh – petitioner and Arshdeep Singh with the allegations that while they both were in police custody in FIR No.96 dated 21.08.2024 registered at Police Station Dera Baba Nanak, they suffered disclosure statements to the effect that they have hidden their pistols near Cremation Ground of Village Rattar Chhattar under one tree and can get the same recovered. When the police party along with the accused went there to recover the pistols, they cleverly removed the hidden loaded pistols and started firing at the police party. The bullet hit on



the tree and police party warned them to surrender but they again started firing shots in the air in order to deter the police officials and thereafter, they fired shots towards the police officials as well. In retaliation, the police officials fired in the legs of accused persons and one bullet hit on the right leg of Arshdeep Singh and one bullet hit on the right leg of Ravi Maninder Singh and they were apprehended. The challan was presented on 26.11.2024 after completion of investigation.

3. Status report by way of an affidavit of Joga Singh, PPS, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Sub Division Dera Baba Nanak, Police District Batala has been filed on behalf of the respondent- State. The same is taken on record.

4. I have heard learned counsel for the parties and have perused the material placed on record.

5. Learned counsel for the petitioner contended that the petitioner has been falsely implicated. Infact, the petitioner alongwith co-accused was in custody. No such disclosure statement had been suffered by him and bullet had been fired in his leg in a false encounter. Even otherwise, no police official has suffered any injury and challan has already been presented on 26.11.2024. The charge was framed on 14.02.2025 and out of 22 witnesses cited by the prosecution, not a single witness has been examined till date. The trial will take a long time to conclude and further detention of the petitioner is not required and he may be released on bail.

6. On the other hand, learned State Counsel has opposed the bail application in view of gravity of the offence and argued that the petitioner does not deserve the concession of bail.



7. As to whether petitioner had picked up the pistol and fired at the police party or not shall be moot question during the trial. It is the petitioner who himself has suffered a bullet injury in his leg at the hands of the police officials. Petitioner is in custody since 29.08.2024. Challan has already been presented after completion of investigation. No police official has suffered any injury. Not a single witness has been examined till date. Trial will thus take sufficiently long time to conclude. It is well settled that bail is the rule and jail is an exception and pre-trial incarceration cannot be used as a tool to punish an offender and no useful purpose will, thus, be served by detaining the petitioner in custody anymore.

8. Having regard to the aforesaid factual position, but without commenting anything upon the merits of the case, the petition is allowed and the petitioner is ordered to be released on bail on his furnishing bail bond and surety bond to the satisfaction of learned Trial Court/Duty Magistrate concerned, on usual terms and conditions.

(Yashvir Singh Rathor)
Judge

December 11, 2025
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Whether Speaking/reasoned	Yes/No
Whether Reportable	Yes/No