

114 IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

2026.PHHC.044343



CRM-M-4684-2025 (O&M)
Date of Decision: 20.03.2026

RAMDUGAR SAHU ALIAS RAHUL ... PETITIONER
VERSUS
STATE OF PUNJAB ... RESPONDENT

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE H.S.GREWAL

Present:- Mr. Yashpal Thakur, Advocate for the petitioner.
Mr. Rishabh Singla, A.A.G., Punjab.

H.S. GREWAL, J. (ORAL)

1. The petitioner is seeking regular bail under Section 483 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) in FIR No.64 dated 02.08.2023 registered under Sections 302, 449, 34 IPC at Police Station Kheri Gandian, Patiala, Punjab.

2. The case of the prosecution is that the FIR was registered on the basis of the statement of Kuldeep Kaur who stated that on 02.08.2023, she found Randhir Kaur dead in her bedroom, with a dupatta encircled around her neck with blood on her neck and face and her gold ornaments were also missing. Thereafter, on 06.08.2023, one Balwinder Singh made a statement to the effect that he had last seen the petitioner leaving the house of the deceased.

3. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the petitioner is innocent and has been falsely implicated in the present case. The petitioner has not been named in the FIR and has been nominated on the basis of the disclosure statement only. He further submits that the petitioner is in custody for the last 02 years, 07 months and 03 days and is not involved in any other case. He, thus, prays for grant of bail to the petitioner.

4. Learned State counsel vehemently opposes the prayer for grant of regular bail to the petitioner on the ground of gravity of allegations. Learned

State counsel has filed the custody certificate in Court, which is taken on record. He further submits that as per the custody certificate, the petitioner is in custody for the last 02 years, 07 months and 03 days and out of total cited 23 prosecution witnesses, only 01 witness has been examined so far.

5. I have heard the learned counsel for the parties and perused the record.

6. After hearing the rival contentions of the learned counsel for the parties and keeping in view the facts and circumstances of the case that the petitioner has been nominated on the basis of disclosure statement; he is in custody for the last 02 years, 07 months and 03 days; he is not involved in any other case; out of total cited 23 prosecution witnesses, only 01 witness has been examined so far; the conclusion of trial is likely to take a long time and continuous detention of the petitioner would not serve the ends of justice, this Court has no option but to grant the concession of regular bail to the petitioner during the pendency of the trial. Moreover, '*bail is rule and jail is exception*'.

7. Therefore, without expressing any opinion on the merits of the case, the instant petition is allowed. The petitioner is ordered to be released on regular bail on his furnishing requisite bail bonds, surety bonds to the satisfaction of the trial Court/Duty Magistrate/Chief Judicial Magistrate concerned.

8. It is clarified that while on bail so granted through the instant order the petitioner is found indulging in any other criminal case, it shall be open to the State to seek cancellation of his bail.

20.03.2026

Janki

(H.S.GREWAL)
JUDGE