

2026:PHHC:049643



307

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

CRM-M-10512-2026
Date of Decision:30.03.2026

Palwinder Singh ...Petitioner
Versus
State of Punjab ...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE AARADHNA SAWHNEY

Present: Ms. Shivali Sharma, Advocate for
Mr. APS Rehan, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Amit Sangwan, AAG, Punjab.

AARADHNA SAWHNEY, J. (ORAL)

1. Petitioner, who is an accused in case FIR No.177 dated 21.12.2025 registered against him, for commission of offences punishable under Sections 125, 351(2) of BNS and Section 25 of the Arms Act, 1959 (Section 109 of BNS added subsequently) at Police Station Sekhwan, Police District Batala, District Gurdaspur, has filed the instant petition, praying for grant of pre-arrest bail.
2. Learned State counsel, on instructions from ASI, Harjinder Singh states that the petitioner has joined the investigation and is not needed for any further investigation.
3. On 24.02.2026 the following order was passed by this Court:-

“Petitioner, who is an accused in case FIR No.177 dated 21.12.2025 registered against him, for commission of offences punishable under Sections 125,351(2) of BNS and Section 25 of the Arms Act, 1959 (Section 109 of BNS added subsequently) at Police Station Sekhwan, Police District Batala, District Gurdaspur, has filed the instant petition, praying for grant of pre-arrest bail.

Relevant facts as emerging from the documents on record be noticed hereinbelow:

Arvinder Singh, son of Gurdeep Singh, resident of village Razzada, P.S Sekhwan, an agriculturist by profession set criminal law in motion by filing a complaint pointing therein that at about 3.45 pm on 21.12.2025, he was putting earth on the passage leading to his house, when a white colored XUV car, (registration number of which he could not note), being driven by Dr. Palwinder Singh (P), son of Kunan Singh, a co-villager passed by Karnail Singh, son of Kashmir Singh was sitting on co-driver seat whereas Kashmir Singh was sitting on the rear seat. Complainant alleged that while driving the car, Palwinder Singh (P) brandished a revolver at him. Thereafter, Palwinder Singh (P) stopped the car about 200 yards away and came out. While hurling cheap abuses at him (c), the revolver was again brandished and within a split of second, 3 shots were fired at him in quick succession with an intention to kill him. He (c) immediately rushed behind the Tractor. After hearing the gun shots being fired, his father Gurdeep Singh rushed out of their house, on seeing him, Palwinder (P) and his companion sat in the car and sped away. Towards the end, complainant further pointed out that Palwinder had had an altercation with his father on the day of the Polling. Based on the said complaint, criminal proceedings were initiated against the petitioner and others.

Apprehending his arrest, petitioner moved an application seeking pre-arrest bail before the learned Addl. Sessions Judge, Gurdaspur. Same came to be dismissed vide order dated 12.02.2026. Aggrieved of which, present petition has been filed.

Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that the petitioner, a well respected and well known person with deep roots in the Society has been falsely implicated in the present case. No such incident as alleged in the complaint ever occurred. In fact, present FIR is an outcome of political rivalry. Continuing further, learned counsel contends that complainant, an Ex-Sarpanch of the Village is an influential worker of the political party and arch rival of the petitioner whose wife had been Sarpanch of the Village from 2019 to 2024. For quite some time, complainant and his Associate (Dr. Jagdish Singh) had been pressurizing the petitioner to join the ruling party and to support their candidate. They also threatened that in case their dictates

are not obeyed, petitioner would be got involved in false cases. They in fact, executed their threat by getting the present FIR lodged.

While mentioning in brief the strained relations between the petitioner and complainant party, learned counsel contends that in December 2025, Sports Tournament had been organized in the Village by the petitioner and others. Even at that point in time, complainant had issued threats and stern warning to stop the tournament. Misusing his official connection, complainant was successful in getting the tournament stopped.

It is next the submission of learned counsel that as soon as the petitioner came to know about the registration of the FIR, he immediately deposited his licenced .32 bore revolver with the local police so that same could be sent for forensic analysis. The report would falsify the allegation that any shots had been fired. Further, even if the version of the complainant is taken to be true, no one suffered any injury. Learned counsel has also drawn attention of this Court to order dated 10.02.2026 passed by Coordinate Bench of this Court vide which co-accused Kashmir Singh was granted the concession of interim anticipatory bail. It has thus been prayed that similar treatment be meted out to present petitioner from whom though no recovery is to be effected but being a law abiding citizen, he is willing to join the investigation as and when called for.

Per contra, while opposing the request for grant of bail, learned State counsel contends that the petitioner was named in the FIR. Complainant also elaborated upon the sequence of events that had unfolded on the relevant afternoon, when petitioner while driving white colored SUV, brandished a revolver towards him (complainant), stopped the vehicle, came out of the same and fired three shots. Due to his sharp reflexes, complainant ran behind the Tractor parked nearby and thus saved himself. People started gathering near the site, when assailants sped away.

It is further the contention of learned counsel that at this stage, there is nothing to doubt the version of the complainant and to arrive at a conclusion that no such incident as alleged occurred.

It is further submission of learned State counsel that co-accused Kashmir Singh, who has been granted the concession of interim anticipatory bail is not similarly situated as present petitioner, for specific allegations have only been levelled against the petitioner.

Investigation being at nascent stage, custodial interrogation of the petitioner is needed to find out the intricacies of the case. Simply, because the wife of the petitioner handed over the weapon in question to the Superintendent of Police on the following day of incident can also not be a ground to assume that no such incident as alleged by the complainant ever occurred.

Heard.

Let a specific report of the Investigating Officer of the case duly forwarded by the DSP concerned, be filed as to whether any gun shots had been fired, if yes, incriminating material in support thereto be placed on record.

List on 06.03.2026.

Till then, no coercive action be taken against the petitioner.”

Relying upon the above mentioned order, this Court vide order dated 13.03.2026 granted the concession of interim anticipatory bail to the petitioner. The same reads as under:-

“Petitioner, who is accused in case FIR No.177 dated 21.12.2025 registered against him, for commission of offences punishable under Sections 125 and 351(2) of BNS and Section 25 of Arms Act, 1959 (Section 109 of BNS added subsequently) at Police Station Sekhwan, Police District Batala, District Gurdaspur, has filed the instant petition, praying for grant of pre-arrest bail.

Learned Counsel has drawn attention of the court to Sub clause (iv) of para 5 of the status report wherein it has been mentioned that no empty cartridges were recovered from the site. It has been pointed out that the weapon in question was handed over by wife of the petitioner to the police authorities. On 24.02.2026, detailed order was passed by this Court vide which it was directed that no coercive action be taken against the petitioner.

Heard. Contents perused.

Notice of motion for 30.03.2026.

In the light of averments made in the status report and without expressing any opinion on the merits of the case, the petitioner is hereby directed to join investigation within seven days from today and cooperate in the same. In the event of the arrest of the petitioner, he shall be released on interim bail on his furnishing personal/surety

bonds to the satisfaction of the Arresting Officer/Investigating Officer. He shall also abide by conditions as envisaged under Section 482(2) BNSS.”

4. Keeping in view the fact that petitioner has joined the investigation, interim bail granted vide order dated 13.03.2026 is hereby confirmed, subject to conditions as envisaged under Section 482(2) BNSS. Further the petitioner is directed to join investigation as and when required in future by way of written notice for such purpose to be served by Investigating Officer of this case upon the petitioner; he will not tamper with the evidence nor will influence the witnesses and will not leave the country without prior permission of the Court.

5. The petition stands allowed.

6. Pending application, if any, also stands disposed of.

30.03.2026
Parveen kumar

(AARADHNA SAWHNEY)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned :Yes/No
Whether reportable :Yes/No