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

CRM-12464-2024 in/and CRA-D-430-2024 (O&M)

Date of decision : 14.01.2026

Sukhdev Singh

.....Appellant

Versus

State of Punjab

.....Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SHEEL NAGU, CHIEF JUSTICE
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJIV BERRYPresent: Mr. Jitender Singh Dadwal, Advocate, and
Mr. Sanjeev Kumar, Advocate,
for the appellant.

Mr. Salil Sabhlok, Senior DAG, Punjab.

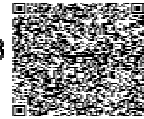
Mr. Vikkrant K. Vij, Advocate,
for the complainant.

SHEEL NAGU, CHIEF JUSTICE (Oral)**CRM-12464-2024**

In view of reasons mentioned in the application, delay of 87 days
in filing the appeal (CRA-D-430-2024) is condoned.

Accordingly, **CRM-12464-2024** is allowed.**CRA-D-430-2024** (O&M)

1. This appeal has been preferred challenging the order dated
16.11.2023 (Annexure A-1) passed by the Court of learned Additional
Sessions Judge, Ludhiana, dismissing the first bail application filed by
Sukhdev Singh (appellant), who is in custody since 07.01.2023 in FIR No. 5



dated 04.01.2023, Police Station Sadar Jagraon, in respect of offences punishable under Sections 302, 452, 120-B, 212, 216, 148, 149 IPC, Section 25 of Arms Act and Sections 17, 18, 18-B, 19, 20 and 25 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 (Amended in 2012) ('UAPA', for brevity).

2. Learned counsel for the appellant submits that after arrest of the appellant, charge sheet was filed on 03.05.2023, whereafter charges were framed on 10.02.2025, but not even a single prosecution witness, out of 42 enlisted witnesses, has been examined till date and now, trial is fixed for examination of first prosecution witness on 21.01.2026.

3. This Court has considered contentions of learned counsel for the appellant.

4. Facts of the case disclose that appellant Sukhdev Singh had two sons, namely Dilpreet Singh and Lovepreet Singh. Lovepreet Singh is residing in Australia. Dilpreet Singh wanted to marry Gurmeet Kaur, niece of complainant Jagroop Singh, but this proposal was opposed by family of Gurmeet Kaur. Incidentally, Dilpreet Singh committed suicide, in respect of which a separate offence is registered. However, the allegations further reveal that Lovepreet Singh, one of the sons of appellant Sukhdev Singh, contacted Arshdeep Singh Dala, who is abroad and is a declared terrorist by the Government of India under UAPA, to eliminate Paramjit Singh (brother of the complainant), to avenge the death of Dilpreet Singh.

4.1 The implication of appellant, who was arrested on 05.01.2023, a day after lodging of FIR, is based primarily on the statements of complainant Jagroop Singh and one Chamkaur Singh, to the extent that they heard the appellant talking to Lovepreet Singh to ensure elimination of Paramjit Singh.



The authenticity and veracity of statements of aforesaid two witnesses is yet to be established in the trial court.

5. Considering the gravity of offence, this Court is of the considered view that though some prejudice has been caused to the appellant due to pre-trial detention, but the same gets outweighed by the gravity of the offence. Therefore, it would be appropriate that main prosecution witnesses are allowed to be examined, before prayer of the appellant for grant of bail is considered.

6. In view of above, for the time being, prayer of the appellant is rejected.

7. Accordingly, the appeal stands dismissed.

8. Pending miscellaneous application, if any, stands disposed of.

(SHEEL NAGU)
CHIEF JUSTICE

(SANJIV BERRY)
JUDGE

January 14, 2026
narotam

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