



CRM-M-13072-2025

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

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Decided on : 25.03.2026

Ekampreet Singh

. . . Petitioner(s)

Versus

State of Punjab

. . . Respondent(s)

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY VASHISTH

Present : Mr. Amandeep Singh Rai, Advocate
for the petitioner(s).

Mr. Manjinder Singh Bhullar, DAG Punjab

Mr. Sukhjit Singh, Advocate
for the complainant

SANJAY VASHISTH, J. (Oral)

1. The instant petition has been filed under Section 483 of BNSS, 2023 (earlier Section 439 Cr.P.C.), for grant of regular bail to the petitioner, during the pendency of trial, who has been booked in a criminal case arising out of First Information Report, as detailed hereunder:-

Name of Petitioner(s)	FIR No.	Date	Section(s)	Police Station	District
Ekampreet Singh, aged 23 years	112	05.12.2022	302, 201, 346, 120-B IPC	Hathoor	Ludhiana

2. Case of the prosecution is that on 24.11.2022, deceased Jaspinder Kaur, aged 24 years, went away from the house on her own and on 05.12.2022, complainant Shaminder Singh (brother of the deceased) got lodged FIR in

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question, about missing of his sister along with 12 tolas of gold and an amount of Rs.20,000/-. On 06.12.2022, Shaminder Singh, gave supplementary statement, stating therein that Parampreet Singh @ Param and Bhawanpreet Singh @ Bhawna, who are real brothers, used to speak to his deceased-sister Jaspinder Kaur and later on, he came to know of the fact that his sister has been murdered by Parampreet Singh @ Param, Bhawanpreet Singh @ Bhawna, Ekampreet Singh and Harpreet Singh.

Besides, prosecution relies upon the disclosure statements of Parampreet Singh @ Param and Ekampreet Singh, that after murdering Jaspinder Kaur, they threw her dead body in to a canal. Since, enough water was not there, the dead body was taken to the fields of Parampreet Singh @ Param and Bhawanpreet Singh @ Bhawna and was put to fire. However, a majorly burnt body was recovered from the fields.

3. Learned counsel for the petitioner while referring to the case of the prosecution in its entirety, submits that initially name of the petitioner was not there in the FIR, which infact was got registered on 05.12.2022, whereas deceased Jaspinder Kaur was missing since 24.11.2022. Further submits that even in the supplementary statement dated 06.12.2022, name of the petitioner-Ekampreet Singh was not mentioned and one of the accused Bhawanpreet Singh @ Bhawna, who was suspected by the complainant – Shaminder Singh in the supplementary statement has already been granted bail by this Court vide order dated 10.01.2025 passed in CRM-M-13309-2024. Learned counsel further submits that after arrest of the main accused Parampreet Singh @ Param, it was his disclosure statement dated 06.12.2022, upon which petitioner was also made accused in the present case. Thus, submits that even as per disclosure statement, petitioner is not



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attributed of any serious role, except of driving the car, in which Parampreet Singh @Param and deceased Jaspinder Kaur were also travelling.

Additionally, it is also submitted that petitioner is inside jail for the last more than a period of 03 years and 01 month and the prosecution witnesses are not even appearing to speed up the process of trial. Since conclusion of trial is not definite to be within fixed time frame, the petitioner cannot be detained in custody. Thus, prays for grant of bail.

4. On the other hand, learned State counsel has vehemently opposed the prayer made in the petition, however, he does not dispute the factual position as narrated by the petitioner's counsel. About the stage of trial, learned State counsel submits that petitioner is inside jail since 26.12.2022 and after completion of investigation, final report under Section 173 Cr.P.C. has also been submitted. Out of total 16 prosecution witnesses, six remains to be examined, three of these witnesses, are admittedly the prime witnesses of the prosecution.

5. I have heard learned counsel for the parties and examined the relevant material available on record with their able assistance.

6. For reference paragraph No.6 of the reply dated 25.05.2025 dated filed by the State is reproduced here-under:-

“6. That on 6-12-2022 during interrogation, accused Parampreet Singh @ Param gave statement to the I.O. that on 24-11-2022 he along with his friend Ekampreet Singh along with Jaspinder Kaur was going in Car No. PB-10-CC-0400. When they reached near bridge of canal in the area of Dadhahoor there arose dispute between him and Jaspinder Kaur because she wants to solemnize marriage with him but he does not want to marry her. Then he thought that Jaspinder Kaur is hurdle in his life and to remove this hurdle he strangulated her neck with her chuni and killed her. Then they reached at the bank of canal in the area of village



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Dhapai. They threw the dead body of Jaspinder Kaur in the canal. But there was less water in the canal and the dead body was lying there in bushes. He further disclosed that they told about this occurrence to Harpreet Singh and Bhawanpreet Singh @ Bhawna. On 25-11-2022 he along with Ekampreet Singh, Harpreet Singh and petitioner Bhawanpreet Singh @ Bhawna went at the spot. They picked up the dead body of Jaspinder Kaur and took to their field. They burnt the dead body. But the dead body could not be burnt completely due to lack of fuel. He further stated that then they concealed the dead body in waste material i.e. parali. On 26-11-2022 they called one JCB and dig a pit. The JCB was sent back. Then they concealed the dead body in that pit. He can get the dead body recovered. The I.O. recorded the statement u/s 27 Evidence Act of the accused Parampreet Singh ® Param. The present petitioner was not present in the car when Parampreet Singh @ Param has committed murder of Jaspinder Kaur.”

7. Primarily the allegation of causing murder of Jaspinder Kaur is against the petitioner—Ekampreet Singh and his co-accused Parampreet Singh @ Param, however, it can not be left unnoticed that name of the petitioner in the present case surfaced only in the disclosure statement of co-accused-Parampreet Singh @ Param and he was never suspected by the complainant in the initial version of the FIR or even in the supplementary statement. Noticing the slow pace of the trial, trial Court was also directed to send a report, with reasoned explanation. As per report dated 24.03.2026 forwarded by learned trial Court, it appears that after starting of process of recording of the statements of total 16 prosecution witnesses, 10 of the PWs had been recorded uptill 24.03.2026. However, post 10.01.2025 period, about 22 opportunities were afforded to the prosecution to complete its evidence, however, it is completely failed. The report which has been submitted with brief description of the proceedings of every date,



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clearly indicates that it is the conduct of the witnesses and more of the official witnesses, are much relaxed in appearing before the Court and deposing in such like serious offences.

8. Be that as it may, petitioner who is inside jail for last more than a period of 03 years and 01 month and is not involved as accused in any other case, this Court deems it appropriate to consider his plea of bail.

9. Consequently, prayer made in the present petition is allowed. Petitioner is ordered to be released on bail, subject to his furnishing bail/surety bonds to the satisfaction of the learned trial Court/ Chief Judicial Magistrate/ Illaqa Magistrate/ Duty Magistrate concerned, if not required in any other case.

10. Needless to observe that the petitioner shall not extend any threat and shall not influence any prosecution witness in any manner directly or indirectly.

11. The observation made here-in-above shall not be construed as an expression of opinion on the facts of the case and the Trial Court is expected to decide the case on the basis of complete evidence available on record.

12. It is further made clear that if, in future, petitioner is directly found indulged in similar kind of activities, this order shall be deemed to be cancelled.

13. Petition stands disposed of.

Pending misc. application(s), if any, also stand disposed of.

March 25, 2026

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Whether speaking/reasoned: Yes/No
Whether Reportable: Yes/No

**(SANJAY VASHISTH)
JUDGE**