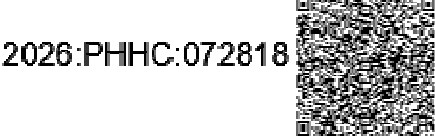


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IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH
CRM-M-20152-2026

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

Date of Decision: May 11, 2026
Date of Uploading: May 11, 2026

CORAM: HON’BLE MR. JUSTICE SUMEET GOEL

Present:- Mr. Amarjeet SIngh Prajapati, Advocate for the petitioner.
Mr. Adhiraj Singh Thind, AAG Punjab.

SUMEET GOEL, J. (ORAL)

Present petition has been filed under Section 483 of the BNSS, 2023 seeking grant of regular bail to the petitioner, in case bearing FIR No.328 dated 02.11.2025, registered for the offences punishable under Sections 103 and 3(5) of the BNS, 2023, Sections 25, 27 of the Arms Act, 1959 (Sections 61(2), 190, 191(3), 253 and 111 of the BNS added later on), at Police Station Civil Lines Batala, Police District Batala, District Gurdaspur, Punjab.

2. The gravamen of the FIR in question is that the complainant, namely, Mrs. Charanjit Kaur, stated that on 02.11.2025, her husband, namely, Jasjit Singh @ Deepu Cheema (deceased) had gone to Taragarh to attend a housewarming ceremony and informed her that he would return home in the evening. At approximately 5:30 PM, her husband spoke to her over the telephone and informed her that he had travelled to the function along with his

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friends, namely Balraj Singh, and Suhail, in their car. He further stated that after attending the function, he had alighted from their car and was on his way back home. After about five minutes, she received information that two unidentified persons riding a motorcycle had arrived near Khokhar Palace and, after firing gunshots at her husband, fled from the spot. Upon receiving this information, she immediately rushed to Khokhar Palace along with her family members, where they found her husband lying in a pool of blood. Thereafter, they shifted him to Civil Hospital, Batala, where the doctors declared him dead.

3. Learned counsel for the petitioner has submitted that petitioner is in custody since 03.11.2025. Learned counsel has further argued that the petitioner has been falsely implicated into the FIR in question primarily on account of his being father of a co-accused, namely, Harvinder Singh Dodhi. Learned counsel has further urged that assuming *arguendo*, the prosecution version is taken to be correct, the petitioner is not directly involved into the firing incident, which resulted into the murder. Learned counsel has further submitted that the petitioner is a man aged about 61 years with clean antecedents. Thus, regular bail is prayed for.

4. Learned State counsel has filed short reply by way of an affidavit dated 05.05.2026, in the Court today, which is taken on record. Raising submissions in tandem with the said short reply, learned State counsel has opposed the present petition by arguing that allegations raised against the petitioner are serious in nature and, thus, the petitioner does not deserve the concession of the regular bail. Learned State counsel also seeks to place on record the custody certificate dated 09.05.2026, in the Court today, which is taken on record.

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5. I have heard counsel for the parties and have gone through the available records of the case.

6. The petitioner was arrested on 03.11.2025 and upon culmination of investigation, challan has been presented on 02.02.2026. Total 37 prosecution witnesses have been cited and it is conceded case before this Court that charges are yet to be framed. It is, indubitable, that conclusion of the trial will take long. It is not in dispute before this Court that the petitioner is not stated to be present at the spot where the murder has taken place and the prime allegation against the petitioner is of conspiracy and harboring the actual co-accused after commission of crime. The rival contentions raised at Bar give rise to debatable issues, which shall essentially be ratiocinated upon during the course of trial. This Court does not deem it appropriate to delve deep into these rival contentions, at this stage, *lest* it may prejudice the trial. Nothing tangible has been brought forward to indicate the likelihood of the petitioner absconding from the process of justice or interfering with the prosecution evidence.

6.1. As per custody certificates dated 09.05.2026 filed by learned State counsel, the petitioner has already suffered incarceration for a period of 06 months and 04 days, & is not shown to be involved in any other FIR(s).

Suffice to say, further detention of the petitioner as an undertrial is not warranted in the facts and circumstances of the case.

7. In view of above, the present petition is **allowed**. Petitioner is ordered to be released on regular bail, if not required in any other case, on his furnishing bail/surety bonds to the satisfaction of the Ld. concerned CJM/Duty Magistrate. However, in addition to conditions that may be imposed by the concerned CJM/Duty Magistrate, the petitioner shall remain bound by the following conditions:

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- (i) The petitioner shall not mis-use the liberty granted.
- (ii) The petitioner shall not tamper with any evidence, oral or documentary, during the trial.
- (iii) The petitioner shall not absent himself on any date before the trial.
- (iv) The petitioner shall not commit any offence while on bail.
- (v) The petitioner shall deposit his passport, if any, with the trial Court.
- (vi) The petitioner shall give his cellphone number to the Investigating Officer/SHO of concerned Police Station and shall not change his cell-phone number without prior permission of the trial Court/Illaqa Magistrate.
- (vii) The petitioner shall not in any manner try to delay the trial.

8. In case of breach of any of the aforesaid conditions and those which may be imposed by concerned CJM/Duty Magistrate as directed hereinabove or upon showing any other sufficient cause, the State/complainant shall be at liberty to move cancellation of bail of the petitioner.

9. Ordered accordingly.

10. Nothing said hereinabove shall be construed as an expression of opinion on the merits of the case.

11. Since the main case has been decided, pending miscellaneous application, if any, shall also stands disposed off.

(SUMEET GOEL)
JUDGE

May 11, 2026

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Whether speaking/reasoned: Yes/No

Whether reportable: Yes/No