

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

CRM-M-22186-2025

Sajan

.....Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

.....Respondent

CRM-M-30110-2025

Gurjeet Singh and another

.....Petitioners

Versus

State of Punjab

.....Respondent

CRM-M-46479-2025

Manish Kumar alias Khanna

.....Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

.....Respondent

CRM-M-6973-2025

Kamalpreet Singh alias Kamal

.....Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

.....Respondent

CRM-M-69761-2025

Sanjeev Kumar @ Nannu

.....Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

.....Respondent



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CRM-M-69782-2025

Jatinder Singh @ Sonu

.....Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

.....Respondent

CRM-M-73584-2025

Suraj Singh

.....Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab

.....Respondent

Decided on: 02.02.2026

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY VASHISTH

Present: Mr. Manjinder Singh Saini, Advocate and
Mr. A.P.S. Chibber, Advocate
for the petitioner (in CRM-M-22186-2025)

Mr. Avtar Singh Khinda, Advocate
for the petitioner(s) (in CRM-M-73584-2025 and CRM-M-30110-2025)

Ms. Anupam Bhanot, Advocate
for the petitioner (in CRM-M-46479-2025, CRM-M-69782-2025)

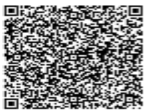
Mr. Brijesh Nandan, Advocate
for the petitioner(s) (in CRM-M-46479-2025 and CRM-M-69782-2025)

Mr. J.S. Thakur, Advocate
for the petitioner(s) (in CRM-M-6973-2025)

Mr. Balkaran Singh Aulakh, Advocate
for the petitioner(s) (in CRM-M-21717-2025)

Mr. Amit Dhawan, Advocate
for the petitioner (in CRM-M-69761-2025)

Mr. Neeraj Madaan, Sr. DAG Punjab.
Mr. Vinay Malhotra, DAG, Punjab



SANJAY VASHISTH, J. (ORAL)

1. By way of this common order, all the above-mentioned petitions are being decided together as they arise out of the same FIR and common allegations.
2. All the above mentioned accused namely–(i) Sajan, (ii) Gurjeet Singh, (iii) Davinderpal Singh @ Bugga, (iv) Manish Kumar alias Khanna, (v) Kamalpreet Singh alias Kamal, (vi)Sanjeev Kumar @ Nannu, (vii) Jatinder Singh @ Sonu and (viii) Suraj Kumar have filed bail petitions under Section 483 of BNSS, 2023 (earlier Section 439 Cr.P.C.), for grant of regular bail to the petitioners, during the pendency of trial, who have been booked in a criminal case arising out of First Information Report, as detailed hereunder:-

FIR No.	Date	Section(s)	Police Station	District
0175	13.07.2023	160, 302, 323, 324, 148, 149, 120-B, 186, 353, 332 IPC and Section 42 of Prisons Act.	Kotwali	Kapurthala

3. After completiton of investigation, challan stands submitted and thereupon vide order dated 23.10.2024, as mentioned in the status report, charges were framed by the trial Court under Secitons 120-B, 148, 302, 303, 326, 325, 324, 323 and 149 IPC and Seciton 42 of Prisons Act.
4. In the presnet cases, the incident had taken place inside the Central Jail, Kapurthala and in the said incident, one person namely Simranjit Singh @ Simar was murdered and other three accused and one Warder namely (i) Prisoner- Amanpreet Singh, (ii) Prisoner-Surinder Singh, (iii) Prisoner-Varinder Singh and (iv) Head Warder Bikramjit Singh suffered injuries.

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5. Initially, while registering FIR, total 22 accused were found named, however, on seeing the CCTV footage, some other accused were also found involved making total number of accused as 37.

During investigation, it was found that the real motive behind the aforesaid occurrence inside jail was that deceased Simranjit Singh @ Simar had a past rivalry with accused-Vijay Kumar and accused Sandeep Singh @ Sabi. On separate occasions, all the aforementioned accused had fight with the deceased, regarding which number of FIRs already stood registered. At one point of time, when there was hearing in the Court, in regard to some FIR, accused Ranjit Singh @ Raja and Kamalpreet Singh @ Kamal had gone to the Court, where Simranjit Singh @ Simar (deceased in present case) was also present and he inflicted injuries upon the aforementioned accused persons, but no legal action was availed against the deceased.

All the aforementioned facts have been noticed from the comprehensive status report dated 31.01.2026, filed today in the Court in the bail petition of Sajan (CRM-M-22186-2025), wherein details of the complete investigation and regarding almost all the accused have been made.

6. Common argument which has been addressed before this Court qua all the petitioners here above is that neither, any specific injury nor a specific weapon has been attributed to any of the petitioners. However, they all are attributed with the role of being members of unlawful assembly, and allegedly armed with deadly weapons, thus, there being common object of causing death and injuries to their jail associates, petitioners herein, are allegedly found indulged in the criminal act inside jail.

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7. The second argument addressed regarding involvement of the petitioners as accused is on the basis of CCTV footage, wherein presence of petitioner was noticed. The evidence based upon which all the aforementioned petitioners have been made accused after seeing the CCTV footage installed in the jail premises, is mentioned in status report. Certain letters were received at the Police Station from the office of the then Additional Superintendent Central Jail, Kapurthala, in which it was found that the petitioners are involved in the conspiracy of the incident, alongwith other accused persons. Infact, 21 accused persons including petitioners were noticed crossing the gate of Phase-2 and entered the Security Ward-E, where deceased Simranjit Singh @ Simar was confined.

8. In regard to the allegations, the relevant part of status report, which has been mentioned paragraph No. 16 reads as under:

“That it is respectfully submitted that the petitioner is actively involved in the present case as the petitioner, in connivance with other accused persons had attacked and killed the inmate Simranjit Singh @ Simar and had injured other inmates. That from the perusal of the CCTV footage, evidence on record and from the comprehensive investigation, it has been found that on the day of the incident, 21 accused persons had crossed the Gate of Phase-2 and entered the Security Ward-E, where the deceased Simranjit Singh @ Simar was confined and the present petitioner was one of them.

That it is pertinent to mention that the present petitioner alongwith other 20 accused persons was armed with deadly weapons and he had inflicted serious injuries upon the person of prisoner Simranjit Singh @ Simar, which resulted in his death. Moreover, during the aforesaid incident, while entering the Security Ward-E, the petitioner and other accused persons had attacked and injured Head



Warder Bikramjit Singh and prisoner Amanpreet Singh, Surinder Singh and Varinderpal Singh, who came to the rescue of the deceased.

That it is important to mention that petitioner and other accused, in order to end the deceased, had hatched a conspiracy and decided to eliminate him and in furtherance of the common object, they came out of the barracks in the shape of mob armed with sharp and blunt deadly weapons and entered into Security Ward-E to cause murder of Simranjit Singh and to cause injuries to four other persons. The motive behind the occurrence is old rivalry between the above accused persons with the deceased.

Therefore, in the light of the aforesaid facts, the role of the petitioner cannot be denied in the present case and the offences committed in the present FIR No. 175 (Supra) and serious in nature which involves the committing of a serious crime against the society. Therefore, it is humbly submitted that the present petitioner does not deserve any relief from this Hon'ble Court."

9. As per the Medico Legal Report dated 13.07.2023 of the deceased Simarnjit Singh @ Simar (when he was alive), total five injuries were suffered by him. Cause of injuries suffered by other four injured has also been described in the MLR. However, there is no specific attribution to any of the petitioners herein. It has further been clarified in the status report that initially total 22 accused were challaned but later on 15 more accused were added and supplementary challan qua them was submitted. It has also been detailed that there are total 46 witnesses and till date, none has been examined and investigation qua one of the accused i.e. Gaurav Giri @ Goral is still pending awaiting challan.

10. As per status report, the other accused, who have been granted regular bail and each one of them found indulged in many other cases have been granted bail are as under:-



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Sr. No.	Name & Petition No.	How nominated	Allegation/Role attributed and evidence	Date of arrest, if already inside jail	Criminal Antecedents
1.	Raj Kumar @ Raju CRM-M-61814-2024	Named in the FIR	Attached Simranjit Singh and killed him	11.09.2023	15 FIRs
2.	Anu Kumar @ Anu @ Arun Kumar CRM-M-23552-2025	Named in the FIR	Conspiracy, aiding other accused in killing the deceased	04.10.2023	24 FIRs
3.	Rahul Kumar @ Rahul Loch CRM-M-51237-2025	Named in the FIR	Conspiracy, aiding other accused in killing the deceased	18.07.2023	6 FIRs
4.	Amardeep Singh @ Patwari CRM-M-38226-2025	Nominated vide DDR No.32 dated 19.07.2023	Attacked Sirmanjit Singh and killed him	24.07.2023	8 FIRs
5.	Gagandeep Singh @ Gagan CRM-M-392-2025	Nominated Vide DDR No.32 dated 19.07.2023	Attacked Simranjit Singh and killed him	20.07.2023	2 FIRs
6.	Sarabpreet Singh @ Sahil @ Billa CRM-M-32855-2024	Nominated vide DDR No.28 dated 16.08.2023	Conspiracy aiding other accused in killing the deceased	19.08.2023	7 FIRs
7.	Jatin Sethi @ Anda CRM-M-9987-2025	Nominated vide DDR No.32 dated 19.07.2023	Attacked Simranjit Singh and killed him	24.07.2023	5 FIRs
8.	Surinder Singh @ Shinda CRM-M-64655-2024	Named in the FIR	Attacked Simranjit Singh and killed him	18.07.2023	1 FIR
9.	Ramandeep Singh @ Raman CRM-M-60828-2024	Nominated vide DDR No.32 dated 19.07.2023	Attacked Sirmanjit Singh and killed him	24.07.2023	4 FIRs
10.	Tarsem Singh @ Joda CRM-M-64680-2024	Named in the FIR	Conspiracy, aiding other accused in killing the deceased	18.07.2023	25 FIRs
11.	Balwinder Sharma CRM-M-45779-2024	Nominated vide DDR No.27 dated 02.08.2023	Conspiracy, aiding other accused in killing the deceased	02.08.2023	1 FIR



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12.	Sukhvir Singh CRM-M-6467-2024	Named in the FIR	Conspiracy, aiding other accused in killing the deceased	02.08.2023	1 FIR
13.	Gagandeep Singh @ Manna CRM-M-1606-2025	Nominated vide DDR No.32 dated 19.07.2023	Conspiracy, aiding other accused in killing the deceased	11.09.2023	3 FIRs
14.	Sukhwinder Singh @ Sukha son of Gurdev Singh CRM-M-64998-2024	Nominated vide DDR No.28 dated 16.08.2023	Attacked Simranjit Singh and killed him	19.08.2023	13 FIRs
15.	Palwinder Singh @ Pindi CRM-M-45324-2024	Named in the FIR	Attacked Simranjit Singh and killed him	18.07.2023	10 FIRs
16.	Kamaljit Singh @ Kanwar @ Sam CRM-M-26177-2024	Named in the FIR	Attacked Simranjit Singh and killed him	02.08.2023	8 FIRs
17.	Vikas Kalyan @ Nannu CRM-M-58770-2024	Named in the FIR	Conspiracy, aiding other accused in killing the deceased	18.07.2023	2 FIRs
18.	Tarsem Singh Sethi @ CRM-M-50759-2024	Named in the FIR	Conspiracy, aiding other accused in killing the deceased	02.08.2023	2 FIRs
19.	Gopal Kumar CRM-M-57021-2024	Nominated vide DDR No.28 dated 16.08.2023	Conspiracy, aiding other accused in killing the deceased	19.08.2023	3 FIRs
20.	Aman Kumar @ Amna CRM-1776-2025	Named in the FIR	Conspiracy, aiding other accused in killing the deceased	24.07.2023	7 FIRs
21.	Ashmandeep Singh @ Ashman CRM-M-9758-2024	Nominated vide DDR No.32 dated 19.07.2023	Attacked Simranjit Singh and killed him	24.07.2023	3 FIRs
22.	Lovepreet Singh @ Love CRM-M-23453-2024	Nominated vide DDR No.32 dated 19.07.2023	Attacked Simranjit Singh and killed him	19.07.2023	3 FIRs

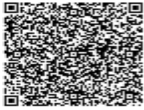
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11. Thus, respective counsels, while addressings the submissions as already noticed here above, pray for grant of bail to the aforementioned petitioners also.

12. On the other hand, Mr. Neeraj Madaan, Sr. DAG Punjab and Mr. Vinay Malhotra, DAG Punjab, while jointly assisting the Court submit that looking at the conduct of the petitioners, that all of them collectively attacked in the jail premises, resulting into the death of one person and causing injuries including grievous in nature to other four victims including one Warder, do not deserve any sympathy or concession for their release on bail. Further submit that if they are released on bail, there is likelihood of affecting the proceedings of trial, and, therefore, same may cause hindrance in the smooth progress of the proceedings before the trial Court or even there can be threat to the prosecution witnesses.

13. I have considered the submissions addressed by learned counsel for the parties.

14. Admittedly, role of all the petitioners is almost similar. Nothing could be gathered from the status report presented before the Court today by the State, nor it could be pointed out by the learned State counsels, showing the involvement of the petitoners alongwith some weapon or causing of a specific injury to the deceased or to any of the injured. Undoubtedly, all the petitioners are indulged in several other criminal cases also and obviously for such reasons they already confined in the jail, where the incident took place. As it has already been noticed that other 22 accused already released on bail, despite they being indulged in several other cases, it would be appropriate to give descriptions alongwith the number of other cases qua the petitioners today before this Court, whose bail petitions are being dealt with by this common order:



Sr. No.	Name and Petiton No.	How nominated	Allegaiton/Role attributed and evidence	Date of arrest, if already inside jail	Criminal Antecedents
1.	Sajan	Named in the FIR	Attacked Simranjit Singh and killed him	11.09.2023	2 FIRs
2.	Sanjeev Kumar @ Nannu	Named in the FIR	Conspiracy aiding, other accused in killing the deceased	19.09.2023	7 FIRs
3.	Suraj Singh	Named in the FIR	Conspiracy aiding, other accused in killing the deceased	19.09.2023	12 FIRs
4.	Manish Prakash @ Manish Kumar Khanna	Named in the FIR	Attacked Simranjit Singh and killed him	11.09.2023	7 FIRs
5.	Jatinder Singh @ Sonu	Nominated vide DDR No. 32 dated 19.07.2023	Conspiracy aiding, other accused in killing the deceased	19.08.2023	3 FIRs
6.	Kamalpreet Singh @ Kamal	Nominated vide DDR No. 32 dated 19.07.2023	Conspiracy aiding, other accused in killing the deceased	30.09.2023	2 FIRs
7.	Gurjeet Singh	Named in the FIR	Attacked Simranjit Singh and killed him	19.09.2023	1 FIR
8.	Davinderpal Singh @ Bugga	Named in the FIR	Attacked Simranjit Singh and killed him	24.07.2023	4 FIRs

15. Apart all the aforementioned circumstances, additionally it is also noticed that for creating distinction to decline the prayer for bail, nothing has been pointed out to the effect that once 22 other accused against whom number of criminal cases have already been ordered to be released on bail, why the concession should be denied to petitioners herein, who admittedly are facing number of criminal cases against them, as discussed in the table described hereinabove. None of the prosecution witness out of total 41 have been recorded


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till date. Primarily their plea of bail is considered to be genuine, because there is no allegation of causing any injury to the deceased or any other person.

16. Thus, this Court is of the view that in the circumstances as explained hereinabove, the present petitions are allowed. Petitioners namely, (i) Sajan (in CRM-M-22186-2025) (ii) Gurjeet Singh and (iii) Davinderpal Singh @ Bugga (in CRM-M-30110-2025) (iv) Manish Kumar alias Khanna (in CRM-M-46479-2025) (v) Kamalpreet Singh alias Kamal (in CRM-M-6973-2025) (vi) Sanjeev Kumar @ Nannu (in CRM-M-69761-2025) (vii) Jatinder Singh @ Sonu (in CRM-M-69782-2025) (viii) Suraj Kumar (in CRM-M-73584-2025) are ordered to be released on bail, subject to their furnishing bail/surety bonds to the satisfaction of the learned trial Court/Chief Judicial Magistrate/Illaq Magistrate/Duty Magistrate concerned, if not required in any other case.

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

18. Any of the discussion done and recorded here above, shall not be construed as an expression of opinion on the facts of the case. Therefore, trial Court is expected to decide the case by taking an independent view, on the basis of evidence available on record, as expeditiously as possible, in accordance with law.

19. Both the petitions stand disposed of.

20. A photocopy of this order be placed on the files of other connected cases.

02.02.2026
reena
**(SANJAY VASHISTH)
JUDGE**

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