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(110)

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT
CHANDIGARH

CRM-M-39289-2025

Date of Decision: 19.02.2026

KHUSHPREET SINGH @ KHUSH

... Petitioner

Versus

STATE OF PUNJAB

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JASJIT SINGH BEDI

Present: Mr. G.S. Randhawa, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Harkanwar Jeet Singh, Asstt. A.G., Punjab.

JASJIT SINGH BEDI, J.

The prayer in the present petition under Section 483 of BNSS, 2023 is for the grant of regular bail in case bearing FIR No.17 dated 21.02.2025 (Annexure P-1) registered under Sections 308(2) and 351(2) BNS at Police Station Jhabal, District Tarn Taran.

2. The present FIR came to be registered at the instance of Dharminder Singh S/o Virsa Singh and the same reads as under:-

“To, the SHO, Police station Jhabal, Tarn Tarn, Subject: complaint regarding threats and extortion by calling from mobile No. +19255946264 and second No. +352937258770. Respected Sir, I am Dharminder Singh S/o Virsa Singh S/o Amar Singh resident of Village Lalu Ghuman Tehsil and District Tarn Taran and is requesting you as under:- 1. That I run the shop of doctor (medical) at village Lalu Ghuman, on 19.02.2025, at about 4:20 PM to till now, I have been receiving



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call from the above said number repeatedly on my mobile No. 98559-06265 and the person calling used to call himself a person from Jaggu Bhagwanpuria and later he kept calling me repeatedly from mobile No. +19255946264 and sending, audio messages on WhatsApp by saying that I am man of Jaggu Bhagwanpuriya and I have been ordered to give us Rs.50 lakh as Extortion Money otherwise we will kill you and your family. He told me everything about what you do, where your son goes, which school he studies and he has all the information about us. due to which we the entire family members are very worried and scared. on 20.02.2025, at about 7:20, PM, when I received a call on my mobile Number +19255946264 regarding the extortion/ ransom, then on 12.02.2025, I had taken a committee of Rs. 3.20 lakh out of which I had 2,50,000/- left. A message came on that mobile No. +19255946264 on my mobile number that you keep the amount of Rs. 50 Lakh at the crematorium of the village Lalu Ghuman, on which I kept the Rs 2,50,000/- in the crematorium of the village Lalu Ghuman. I saw in the morning that money was not there. On 21.03.2025, at about 8:15, AM, I received a call from mobile No. +19255946264 on my mobile No. 98559-06265 that the amount is very small, if you do not give the remaining money as soon as possible you and your family will be killed. Therefore, I am requesting you by way this application that the above said number may kindly be verified/investigated and life and liberty of me and my family may kindly be protected. I shall highly oblige. Thanking you. Dharminder Singh S/o Virsa Singh of resident of village Lalu Ghuman, Tehsil and District Tran Taran, Mobile No. 98559- 06265 Sd/ Dharminder Singh.”

3. During the course of investigation secret information was received to the effect that Khushpreet Singh alias Khush (petitioner) S/o Lakhwinder Singh and Akashdeep Singh alias Akash S/o Kabal Singh used to

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give threatening calls to the public and demand ransom. Based on the said information, they were arrested. On an examination of their mobile phones, it was found they had made threatening calls to the complainant.

During the course of investigation, one Sukhpal Singh alias Sukh was nominated as an accused in the present case and thereafter, Jagdeep Singh alias Jaggu Bhagwanpuria was also nominated after obtaining his production warrants.

4. The learned counsel for the petitioner contends that the petitioner has been falsely implicated in the present case. In fact, he was illegally picked up from his residence and his arrest has been shown from elsewhere. Co-accused Akashdeep Singh alias Khush has been granted the concession of bail vide order dated 09.07.2025 (Annexure P-2). As the petitioner is in custody since 21.02.2025 but none of the 09 prosecution witnesses has been examined, the Trial of the present case is not likely to be concluded anytime soon, he is entitled to the concession of bail.

5. On the other hand, the learned State counsel while referring to the reply dated 16.09.2025 contends that the petitioner and his co-accused were seeking ransom in the name of a gangster namely, Jagdeep Singh alias Jaggu Bhagwanpuria. Repeated calls have been made and audio messages sent to the complainant demanding ransom and threatening him. Offences of this kind are on the rise. The petitioner is otherwise a habitual offender with one other case registered against him bearing FIR No.08 dated 21.02.2025 U/s 308(5) BNS, P.S. Ghuman Kalan, District Gurdaspur. Surprisingly, the co-accused of the petitioner has been granted the concession of bail after the

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bail application of the present petitioner was dismissed by the Trial Court. The nature of the allegations levelled against the petitioner do not entitle him to the concession of bail. Therefore, the present petition is liable to be dismissed.

6. I have heard the learned counsel for the parties.

7. A perusal of the FIR and the investigation would reveal that the petitioner and his co-accused were repeatedly threatening the complainant and his family members and demanding ransom on behalf of an alleged gangster. The allegations are serious in nature. Offences of this kind are certainly on the rise. There is every possibility that the petitioner would tamper with the evidence and/or influence witnesses or flee away from justice. 03 of the 09 prosecution witnesses already stand examined and therefore, the Trial is going on at a steady pace. Therefore, I do not deem it appropriate to grant the concession of bail to the petitioner.

8. In view of the aforementioned discussion, I find no merit in the present petition. Therefore, the same stands dismissed.

(JASJIT SINGH BEDI)
JUDGE

19.02.2026

JITESH

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