



IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA  
AT CHANDIGARH

267

Date of decision: April 09, 2026

(1) CRM-M-47941-2024 (O&M)

CHARANJIT SHARMA

...Petitioner

Versus

STATE OF PUNJAB

...Respondent

(2) CRM-M-17867-2025 (O&M)

PARAMRAJ SINGH UMARANANGAL

...Petitioner

Versus

STATE OF PUNJAB

...Respondent

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE TRIBHUVAN DAHIYA**

Present: Mr. Sangram Singh Saron, Advocate with  
Mr. M.B. Rajwade, Advocate  
for the petitioner(s).

Mr. Deepender Singh, Additional Advocate General, Punjab with  
Mr. Satjot Singh Chahal, Assistant Advocate General, Punjab.

Mr. Imaan Singh Khara, Advocate  
for the complainant.

**TRIBHUVAN DAHIYA, J. (ORAL)**

These two petitions are being decided together as the same have been filed to transfer trial of two connected FIRs, wherein both the petitioners are accused, from the Sessions Court, Faridkot, to the Court of competent jurisdiction at the Union Territory (U.T.) Chandigarh. Both the FIRs pertain to the violence that erupted during protests following the incidents of sacrilege some time prior thereto in October, 2015. The FIRs are:

- (I) FIR no.129 dated 07.08.2018 under Sections 307, 323, 341, 201, 218, 120-B and 34 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 (for short, 'IPC'), Sections 27, 54 and 59 of the Arms Act, 1959 and Sections 119, 109, 153, 295A, 324, 427, 504 of the IPC (added subsequently), at Police Station, City Kotkapura, and
- (II) FIR no.192 dated 14.10.2015 under Sections 307, 353, 332, 333, 323, 382, 435, 283, 120-B, 148, 149 of the IPC, Section 3, 4, 25, 54, 59 of the Arms Act, 1959 and Section 3 and 4 of the Prevention of Damage to Public Property Act, 1984, at P.S. City Kotkapura.

2. Learned counsel for the petitioner(s) contended that in respect of the violence during protests after the incidents of sacrilege, the following four FIRs were registered by the police:

- (i) FIR no.129 dated 14.10.2015, P.S. Bajakhana, District Faridkot;
- (ii) FIR no.130 dated 21.10.2015, P.S. Bajakhana, District Faridkot;
- (iii) FIR no.192 dated 14.10.2015, P.S. City Kotkapura, District Faridkot;
- (iv) FIR no.129 dated 07.08.2018, P.S. City Kotkapura, District Faridkot.

Both the petitioners are accused in FIR no.130 dated 21.10.2015 also. One of them, Paramraj Singh Umaranangal, approached this Court seeking quashing of the instant FIR no.129 dated 07.08.2018 by filing a petition, CWP-22703-2020, which was decided along with three other petitions vide judgment dated 04.07.2022, Annexure P-8, directing that trial of the case shall proceed along with the cases arising out of FIR no.192 dated 14.10.2015,

FIR no.130 dated 21.10.2015 and FIR no.129 dated 14.10.2015. The directions are as under:

[49]. At this stage, all these cases are disposed of without meaning anything on merits of the case(s), thereby giving liberty to the petitioners to address at the time of framing of charges. The prosecution in turn, shall submit report of further investigation to the trial Court at the earliest as it appears that in Kotkapura cases, report has been prepared. The trial Court shall proceed to take all these cases simultaneously on the same day and decide the same in accordance with law. Petitioners if aggrieved thereafter, may resort to their legal remedies.

3. It is also a fact apparent on record that another petitioner, Charanjit Sharma, earlier approached this Court for transfer of case FIR no.130 dated 21.10.2015 from the Sessions Court, Faridkot, to a Court of competent jurisdiction outside Faridkot, by filing a petition, CRM-M-51561-2019, which was allowed vide judgment dated 31.05.2024, Annexure P-16. Its operative part reads as under:

(34). Undoubtedly, the power under Section 407 CrPC has to be exercised cautiously and in exceptional situations, where it becomes necessary to do so to provide credibility to the trial, however, in keeping in mind the peculiar factual and law and order situation particularly the life and security of the accused and other witnesses in the present case, the broad parameters as laid down in Nahar Singh's case (supra) are made out inasmuch as the documents placed on record and the instances quoted by the petitioner are sufficient enough to indicate that if trial is permitted to continue at Faridkot that may create communally surcharged atmosphere for holding fair and impartial trial. Furthermore, since

the Apex Court itself has transferred the trial of all the FIRs, referred to above, relating to the said sacrilege incident from Moga and Faridkot to UT Chandigarh, this Court sees no reason for it to deviate from the order passed by the Apex Court.

(35). Accordingly, this petition under Section 407 CrPC is allowed and the trial of FIR No.130 dated 21.10.2015 under Sections 302, 307, 34, 201, 218, 120-B IPC and Sections 25 & 27 of Arms Act, 1959 registered at Police Station Bajakhana, District Faridkot (Annexure P2) now pending in the Court of Sessions Judge, Faridkot is transferred to the Court of competent jurisdiction at Union Territory of Chandigarh.

This judgment was challenged by the State before the Supreme Court by filing Special Leave Petition (Criminal) Diary no.11854 of 2025, which was dismissed vide order dated 09.04.2025.

4. Resultantly, out of the four connected cases, which were ordered to be tried together by this Court vide judgment and order dated 04.07.2022, trial in one of the cases, i.e., FIR no.130 dated 21.10.2015, has already been transferred to Chandigarh and is pending there before the Sessions Judge. The petitioners are accused in that case also. It is not in the interests of justice that the same accused involved in connected FIRs relating to public protests at different places in the District against the desecration should face two different trials at two different Sessions Divisions. Besides, it would be violative of the directions to try such cases jointly issued vide the judgment aforementioned. Further, the Sessions Judge, Faridkot, has also sent a report in this regard explaining the difficulties being faced and the requirement that the cases being tried before him pertaining to the two FIRs in question should be tried along

with FIR no.130 dated 21.10.2015 at the Sessions Court, Chandigarh. In this view of the matter, this Court finds no reason to allow the trial of the instant two cases to be conducted at Sessions Court, Faridkot.

5. Accordingly, these petitions are allowed and the cases pertaining to FIR no.129 dated 07.08.2018 and FIR no.192 dated 14.10.2015 are ordered to be transferred from the Sessions Court, Faridkot, to the Sessions Court, Chandigarh, for trial along with case FIR no.130 dated 21.10.2015.

Dictated on: April 09, 2026  
Signed on: April 20, 2026  
*Jaspreet Kaur*

**(TRIBHUVAN DAHIYA)**  
**JUDGE**

*Whether speaking/reasoned* : <sup>✓</sup> *Yes/No*  
*Whether reportable* : *Yes/No*