

**CRM-M-61550-2025****1****IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH****142****CRM-M-61550-2025****Decided on :16.03.2026**

Abhishek alias Rajat Rana

. . . Petitioner(s)

Versus

State of Punjab

. . . Respondent(s)

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY VASHISTH

Present: Mr. M.N. Jajoria, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Iqbalpreet Singh, AAG, Punjab.

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SANJAY VASHISTH, J. (Oral)

1. Present petition has been filed under Section 483 of BNSS, seeking regular bail in case FIR No.144 dated 28.05.2018, under Sections 302, 34 IPC, registered at Police Station Derabassi, District SAS Nagar.
2. Deceased Navjot Singh was a singer and used to take classes at Mohali. On 27.05.2018, at around 11:00 p.m., Rajwinder Kaur dialled a call to her husband, Navjot Singh, to ascertain his whereabouts. In response, he stated that he was on his way home. However, he did not reach home. Thereafter, Sukhbir Singh, father of Navjot Singh, along with his nephew, went in search of him. Behind a vacant plot of a factory, the car of Navjot Singh bearing registration No. PB-70-C-2775 was found parked, with the dead body of Navjot Singh inside, bearing bullet injuries.

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3. Learned counsel for the petitioner argues that there is no evidence against the petitioner except the alleged disclosure statement of the petitioner, Abhishek @ Rajat Rana. Since the allegations are not supported by any independent evidence, the petitioner prays for the grant of bail.

4. Learned State counsel contends that when the petitioner was arrested in FIR No. 147 dated 18.10.2019 under Section 25 of the Arms Act, registered at Police Station Raipur Rani, District Panchkula, a pistol was recovered from his possession. As per his disclosure statement dated 14.12.2023, the petitioner allegedly used this weapon in the present offence committed on 27.05.2018, along with his co-accused, to snatch the car from Navjot Singh.

5. Learned State counsel, however, is unable to clarify the following queries:

- i) Whether any bullet was recovered in the case, and if so, whether it was recovered from the car or from the dead body?
- ii) If any bullet was recovered, whether it matches the weapon recovered from the petitioner?
- iii) Since the car of Navjot Singh was not taken away by the petitioner after committing the murder and was found parked by the complainant, what motive could the petitioner have had to commit the murder of Navjot Singh?

6. I have heard learned counsel for the parties and perused the paper-book along with the documents appended thereto.

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7. Considering the facts and circumstances of the case, petitioner is in custody for a period of more than two years and three months, and charges have not yet been framed. The trial is likely to take considerable time for its conclusion. In the absence of any substantial material on record warranting continued detention, this Court finds no justification to keep the petitioner in custody any further.

Without commenting on the merits of the case, 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/Illaq Magistrate/ Duty Magistrate concerned, if not required in any other case.

8. Any of the discussion done and recorded hereabove, 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.

9. Petition stands disposed of.

(SANJAY VASHISTH)
JUDGE

16.03.2026***Rashmi***

Whether speaking/reasoned: Yes/No

Whether Reportable: Yes/No