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CRM-M-64567-2025

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IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

121 CRM-M-10796-2025

Gurpreet Singh alias Gopi . . . Petitioner(s)
Versus

State of Punjab . . . Respondent(s)
132 CRM-M-54531-2025

Arun Kumar alias Arru . . . Petitioner(s)
Versus

State of Punjab . . . Respondent(s)
167 CRM-M-64567-2025

Mandeep Kumr alias Manni . . . Petitioner(s)
Versus

State of Punjab . . . Respondent(s)
Decided on :24.02.2026

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY VASHISTH

Present: Mr. Ankit Gupta, Advocate for the petitioner
(in CRM-M-10796-2025).

Mr. Ravi Chadda, Advocate for the petitioner
(in CRM-M-54531-2025).

Mr. Prateek Pandit, Advocate for the petitioner
(in CRM-M-64567-2025)

Mr. Neeraj Madaan, Sr. DAG, Punjab.

SANJAY VASHISTH, J. (Oral)

1. By way of this common order all the aforementioned petitions are being disposed of as they arise out of one common FIR.
2. Petitioners namely, Gurpreet Singh @ Gopi, Arun Kumar @ Arru and Mandeep Kumar @ Mani have filed the present petitions under Section 483 of the BNSS, seeking regular bail in case FIR No.118 dated



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23.09.2024, registered under Sections 103(1), 191(3), 190, 61(2), 238 of the BNS and Sections 25, 27, 54 and 59 of the Arms Act at Police Station Bhogpur, District Jalandhar.

3. Learned counsel for the petitioners submit that petitioner- Gurpreet Singh @ Gopi, Arun Kumar @ Arru and Mandeep Kumar @ Mani are in custody since 23.09.2024, 20.10.2024 and 03.11.2024 respectively. The investigation stands completed and the challan has already been presented before the learned trial Court. The petitioners are no longer required for custodial interrogation.

4. Counsel further submits that co-accused Ranjit Singh @ Ranjit Kumar @ Kaka has already been granted the concession of regular bail vide order dated 02.09.2025 passed by this Court in CRM-M-28828-2025. Therefore, on the principle of parity, the present petitioners are also entitled to the same relief.

5. Learned counsel submits that complainant nominated petitioner- Arun Kumar as the main assailant after delay of about one month and that too after making personal inquiries. Thus, the prosecution case rests primarily upon hearsay evidence, disclosure statements of co-accused and alleged confessional statements recorded while the accused were in custody.

6. Learned counsel submits that, as per the prosecution version itself, no recovery was effected from petitioner Gurpreet Singh @ Gopi. Petitioner Arun Kumar @ Aaru is alleged to have got recovered a 7.65



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mm pistol loaded with six live cartridges from beneath the soil in a sugarcane field belonging to co-accused Sauravdeep Singh @ Saurav. However, no weapon or incriminating article was recovered from petitioner Mandeep Kumar @ Mani. Therefore, counsel pray for grant of regular bail to the petitioners.

7. Learned State counsel has filed status report dated 23.02.2026 by way of an affidavit of Harvinder Singh Virk, PPS, Senior Superintendent of Police, Jalandhar Rural, in Court today. Same is taken on record. Registry is directed to tag the same at appropriate place with the paper-book.

Learned State counsel submits that petitioners, namely Gurpreet Singh @ Gopi, Arun Kumar @ Arru, and Mandeep Kumar @ Mani, are accused of being part of a well-planned and premeditated criminal conspiracy which resulted in the murder of the deceased, Jaspal Singh. Learned State counsel further submits that petitioner-Arun Kumar @ Arru is alleged to have fired shots at the deceased, while Mandeep Kumar @ Mani allegedly assisted in the commission of the crime. Prosecution case is supported by disclosure statements of co-accused, recovery of a 7.65 mm pistol from the sugarcane field, and other material evidence.

Learned State counsel further submits that petitioners involvement is serious in nature and, if released on bail, there is a



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possibility of tampering with evidence or influencing witnesses, thus prays for dismissal of present petitions.

8. I have heard learned counsel for the parties and perused the paper-book as well as the documents appended thereto.

9. Co-accused Ranjit Singh @ Ranjit Kumar @ Kak has already been granted bail. In paragraph No.3 of the order dated 02.09.2025 facts of the case were noticed and same are reproduced hereunder as well:

“3. Facts which have been narrated in para 3 of the bail petition in chronological order are also noticed and recorded hereunder:-

(i) FIR in question has been registered on 23.09.2024 on the statement of Navjot Singh who happens to be elder brother of Jaspal Singh deceased in question.

(ii) Complainant has alleged that on the night of 22.09.2024 at 11 PM, his brother's friend namely Simranjeet has made telephonic call to him and has apprised that his brother is lying on the road as he has suffered bullet injuries on his head and ear.

(iii) Thereafter, complainant and his father Harjeet Singh reached at spot and took his brother to Civil hospital KALA BAKRA in ambulance wherein, he was declared brought dead.

(iv) Therein, complainant took names of Gurjeet Singh alias Gurji, Ravi Kumar, Gurpreet Singh, Amrik Singh. Babbu, Sunny as the said persons have killed his brother on account of FIR was registered against these 6 persons.



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(v) On 29.09.2024, Gurjeet Singh alias Gurji and Ravi Kumar made a disclosure statement on the basis of which 2 unloaded guns were recovered.

(vi) On 20.10.2024, complainant-Navjot Singh supplementary statement to the police that Arun Kumar alias AADHU is the main accused for killing my brother.

(vii) On 21.10.2024, said Arun Kumar was arrested and he discloses about the role and motive for killing victim-deceased in question along with his accomplices i.e. Mandeep Kumar alias Manni and Manjit Singh alias Moti.

(viii) On 22.10.2024 Arun Kumar again made disclosure statement that the pistol with which I and Mandeep Kumar have given bullet injuries was bought from Ranjit Kumar (present petitioner).

(ix) Whereafter on the basis of statement of abovementioned accused Arun Kumar; Sauravdeep Singh, Ranjit Kumar (petitioner), Mandeep Singh alias Mani and Manjit Singh alias Moti were nominated as an accused.

(x) On 22.10.2024, petitioner-Ranjit Singh was arrested and thereafter, his disclosure was recorded wherein he discloses about running a juice shop and on account of his acquaintance with Arum Kumar, he took him along with his accomplices to Bihar and after enquiring, bought him a pistol and he also discloses that he bought 2 more pistols which on the basis of disclosure was recovered by police in unloaded condition.

(xi) On 11.12.2024, complainant again made a supplementary statement on the basis of which Amrik Singh, Babbu alias Mandeep Gill and Sunny were declared innocent.



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(x) Thereafter, Challan was presented on 16.01.2025 and Charges were framed on 19.02.2025 and 26 witnesses have been cited by prosecution out of which not even one has been examined.

(xi) The case is now fixed for 22.05.2025 before the Learned Trial Court.”

10. Petitioners, namely Gurpreet Singh @ Gopi, Arun Kumar @ Arru, and Mandeep Kumar @ Mani, are in custody since since 23.09.2024, 20.10.2024 and 03.11.2024 respectively, and that the investigation stands completed with the challan already filed before the learned trial Court. Their continued detention would not be for any justified reason. It is further noticed that out of total 26 prosecution witnesses, only 02 have been fully examined, 01 partially examined, and 02 have been given up, reflecting the slow progress of the trial.

As per the prosecution version, no recovery was effected from petitioner Gurpreet Singh @ Gopi, no incriminating article or weapon was recovered from petitioner Mandeep Kumar @ Mani, however, petitioner Arun Kumar @ Arru is alleged to have got recovered one pistol and same is yet to be connected with the crime.

Case of the prosecution rests on circumstantial evidence and that too arrest of accused on the basis of doubt, disclosure statement of co-accused or accused's own statement, while in police custody.



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Accordingly, present petitions are allowed. Petitioners 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/Illaqa Magistrate/ Duty Magistrate concerned, if not required in any other case.

11. 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.

12. Petitions stand disposed of.

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

(SANJAY VASHISTH)
JUDGE

24.02.2026
Rashmi

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