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**IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH**

**CRM-M-66168-2025 (O&M)
DECIDED ON: 19.03.2026**

MANPREET SINGH ALIAS MANI**.....PETITIONER**

VERSUS

STATE OF PUNJAB**.....RESPONDENT****CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY VASHISTH.**

Present: Mr. Himanshu Bansal, Advocate,
for the petitioner.

Mr. Vinay Malhotra, DAG, Punjab.

SANJAY VASHISTH, J (ORAL)

1. Present 3rd petition has been filed by the petitioner, seeking grant of regular bail, in case, FIR No.135, dated 22.06.2021, under Sections 307, 304, 148, 149 and 120-B of IPC, and sections 25, 27, 54 and 59 of Arms Act, read with DDR No.71 dated 23.06.2021, registered at Police Station City Kotkapura, District Faridkot.

2. Case of the prosecution reads as under:-

“As per the allegations, local police of Police Station City Kotkapura, received information on 22.06.2021 about a cross firing having taken place at around 11 a.m. at Jalaleana Road, Rishi Colony, Kotkapura between Ravel Singh travelling in his Innova Car bearing registration No. PB-05W-1893 on one side; and some unknown persons in their car bearing registration No. DL-7CG-1918 on the other side and that one person was lying injured at the spot, having suffered bullet injury. FIR under Sections 307/34 IPC and Sections 25/27 of the Arms Act was registered and investigation commenced. Spot of the crime was visited. Empty cartridges of different weapons lying at the spot, besides vehicle and blood smeared earth showing

number of rounds fired at the spot, were seized. Intimation was received that one of the injured, namely, Deepak (name as mentioned on the driving licence recovered from pocket of his pant) had been brought dead at Civil Hospital, Kotkapura. Accordingly, Section 302 IPC was added vide DDR No.2, dated 23.06.2021. During inspection of the dead body, 07 live cartridges of 9 mm were seized from the pants of the deceased. Later on, brother of the deceased disclosed the real name of the deceased as Krishan Pal.

During the course of investigation, as involvement of Ravel Singh was found in the occurrence, he was apprehended on 23.06.2021 and on interrogation, he suffered disclosure statement, as per which on 22.06.2021 as he was returning in his car from the place of his friend in Rishi Nagar, Kotkapura to Jalaleana Road, when a Corolla car came from the opposite side, besides a motorcycle, upon which Krishan Pal S/o Ram Krishan, Nitesh @ Pardhan were riding. Golu, Bachi, ManpreetSingh@ Mani(presentpetitioner), besides 3-4 unknown persons emerged from the car and all of them started firing indiscriminately towards him with an intention to kill him. He (Ravel Singh) stopped his car and fired two shots upon them with his .32 bore illegal weapon in defence. He also disclosed that magazine of his weapon had fallen down at the spot. Cross version under Sections 307, 148, 149, 120-B read with Section 25/27 of the Arms Act, 1959 was registered vide DDR No.71 dated 23.06.2021 against Krishan Pal, Nitish @ Pardhan, Golu, Bachi, petitioner Manpreet Singh @ Mani, Gurwinder Pal @ Goru and Goldy Brar, besides 3-4 unknown persons.

Further prosecution case is that Corolla car used in the crime was recovered from a deserted area on 24.06.2021. Other accused were also nominated, as per the disclosure statements of the accused. Petitioner Manpreet Singh @ Mani was produced before the Illaqa Magistrate on 23.07.2021, in compliance of the production warrants. It was disclosed by said petitioner that he had been engaged by accused Goldy Brar and that he had started reiki of the place of occurrence before executing the plan to kill Ravel Singh and for that purpose, he was paid Rs.25,000/- by Harpeet Singh @ Bhau. In view of the said statement of petitioner Manpreet Singh @ Mani, Harpreet Singh @ Bhau was nominated as accused in the case, who was arrested and who disclosed modus operandi to commit the offence at the instance of Goldy Brar.”

3. 1st bail petition filed by the petitioner, i.e. CRM-M-58907-2022 was dismissed by the co-ordinate Bench of this Court, vide order dated 31.08.2023 (Annexure P-3).

4. 2nd bail petition filed by the petitioner, i.e. CRM-M-33892-2024 was dismissed, as having been withdrawn, vide order dated 21.01.2025 (Annexure P-6).

Hence, present petition is the 3rd petition for grant of bail filed by the petitioner.

5. There are serious allegations against the petitioner. Although, petitioner is in custody for a period of 4 years and 7 months, but out of total 38 prosecution witnesses, only 3 have been examined, till date. However, there being serious allegations against the petitioner, this Court deems it appropriate to dispose of the present petition, with a direction to the trial court to conclude the trial within a period of six months. Thereupon, if trial is not concluded, petitioner is at liberty to file appropriate petition for seeking bail, again.

6. Hence, present petition stands disposed of.

7. Copy of this order be forwarded to the trial Court for information and necessary compliance.

(SANJAY VASHISTH)
JUDGE

19.03.2026

Lavisha

<i>Whether speaking/reasoned</i>	<i>Yes/No</i>
<i>Whether reportable</i>	<i>Yes/No</i>