

PBFZ030014212026



IN THE COURT OF Ms. HARPREET KAUR, PCS,
JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE IST CLASS, FEROZEPUR.
UID NO.PB0526

CIS No.	CHI/70/2026
CNR No.	PBFZ030014212026
Presented on	18.02.2026
Registered on	18.02.2026
Decided on	20.07.2026
Duration	0 years, 5 months, 2 days

FORM 'A'

In The Court of Ms. Harpreet Kaur Judicial Magistrate First Class, Ferozepur. Decided on: 20.07.2026 Case No. CHI/13/2024 CNR No. PBFZ030014212026 FIR No. 15 Dated: 23.02.2023 Under Sections: 384, 506 IPC Police Station:- Talwandi Bhai	
COMPLAINANT	State of Punjab through Kulpratap Singh son of Gurpreet Singh, resident of Ward No.1, Talwandi Bhai.
REPRESENTED BY	Ms. Gurmeet Kaur, APP.
ACCUSED	Dharamveer Grover son of Jai Krishan, resident of House No.249 A, Nawi Abadi, Ward No.5 Talwandi Bhai.

	Manpreet Singh @ Peeta son of Naib Singh, resident of Bootiyan Wala, PS Sadar Zira. (Already acquitted vide judgment dated 18.07.2025)
REPRESENTED BY	Sh. Sunil Kumar, Assistant LADC for accused Manpreet Singh @ Peeta.

Accused Details:

Rank of the Accused	Name of Accused	Offences charged with	Whether Acquitted or Convicted	Sentence Imposed	Period of Detention Undergone during Trial for purpose of section 428 Cr.P.C.
A1	Dharamveer Grover	Section 384 IPC r.w.s 511 IPC, 34 IPC and Section 506 IPC	Acquitted	-	-

FORM 'C'**LIST OF PROSECUTION/DEFENCE/COURT WITNESSES****A. Complainant:-**

RANK	NAME	NATURE OF EVIDENCE (EYE WITNESS, POLICE WITNESS, EXPERT WITNESS, MEDICAL WITNESS, PANCH WITNESS, OTHER WITNESS)

PW-1	Kulpratap Singh	Complainant
PW-2	Sh. Aditya Rampal	Ahlmad of the Court of undersigned
PW-3	HC Baldev Singh	Police witness
PW-4	ASI Major Singh	Police witness
PW-5	Akshay Kumar @ Sunny	Other witness
PW-6	SC Gurmukh Singh	Police witness
PW-7	ASI Pal Singh	Investigating Officer

Present: Ms. Gurmeet Kaur, APP for the State
Accused Dharamveer Grover on bail represented by Sh.
Gurbachan Singh Gill Advocate.

JUDGMENT

1. The above named accused has been sent up to this court by the SHO, Police Station Talwandi Bhai to face trial Under Section 384, 506 of IPC. Supplementary challan of accused Dharamveer Grover was presented on 18.02.2026.

BRIEF FACTS OF THE CASE

2. Succinctly the facts of the case in hand is that on 23.02.2023, one application was moved by Kulpratap Singh (**hereinafter referred to as Complainant**) marked to ASI Pal Singh (**hereinafter referred as Investigating Officer in short "IO"**) for investigation wherein he (complainant) stated that 21.02.2023, he got a ransom call on his whatsapp No.8573000015 from an unknown caller bearing No.

+4915217860521 at around 11:31 AM. The caller demanded Rs.10 Lacs and told him that he has information about the routes taken by him and his family members to the adjoining villages in connection of their grocery work. He also mentioned the names of his family members i.e. of his father Gurpreet Singh and of his brother Navdeep Singh. He gave him one hour to discuss the extortion amount with his family members and threatened him with dire consequences of killing him and his family members, if he did not took any decision to provide the extortion money. As a precautionary measure and for taking the legal action against the caller, on the same day, he moved one application to SHO, P.S. Talwandi Bhai. On this application, an FIR was lodged dated 23.02.2023. On 01.03.2023, complainant got recorded his supplementary statement with the police about involvement of accused Manpreet Singh alias Peeta in the aforementioned extortion call. On which, accused Manpreet Singh @ Peeta was nominated in the present case vide DDR No.33 dated 01.03.2023. Thereafter, on dated 09.03.2023, ASI Pal Singh nominated accused Mandeep Singh @ Deepa and Amrik Singh in the present case vide DDR No.35 dated 09.03.2023. Thereafter, on dated 18.11.2023, accused Manpreet Singh alias Peeta was arrested by I.O Inspector Shimla Rani after taking the production warrants from concerned Hon'ble Court.

On 18.11.2023, accused Manpreet Singh alias Peeta was arrested by I.O Inspector Shimla Rani after taking the production warrants from concerned Hon'ble Court. During interrogation, accused Manpreet Singh @ Peeta has disclosed that he has made extortion call from Philippines Manila. The mobile phone which was used by him for the said extortion call was taken into possession by Manila Police. During investigation, vide Rapat No.20 Dated 20.12.2023, Mandeep Singh @ Deepa and Amrik Singh were declared innocent. On completion of investigation, challan was prepared and presented in the court against the accused Manpreet Singh @ Peeta under Section 384, 506 IPC.

APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED DHARAMVEER SINGH

3. Prosecution has got issued non-bailable warrants of Dharamveer Singh, who has been nominated vide Rapat No.23 dated 28.10.2023 by moving application dated 05.09.2024. Despite Strenuous efforts, accused Dharamveer Singh could not be arrested and he was declared proclaimed person vide order of the Court dated 21.01.2025. However, on later date, accused was formally arrested on 16.01.2026 and sent to judicial custody. The present Supplementary Challan against accused Dharamveer Singh was presented on 18.02.2026. The trial

against accused Manpreet Singh @ Peeta was concluded and he stood acquitted vide judgment dated 18.07.2025.

COMPLIANCE OF SECTION 207 CR.P.C

4. On presentation of the final report, copies of the documents as required Under Section 207 of the Code of Criminal Procedure was supplied to the accused Dharamveer Grover free of costs.

FRAMING OF CHARGE

5. On dated 26.02.2026, from the final report under Section 173 of Cr.P.C. and documents annexed therewith, a prima facie case under Section 384 r.w.s 511 IPC, 34 IPC and 506 IPC was found to be made out against the accused Dharamveer Grover and charge was framed against him accordingly, to which he pleaded not guilty and claimed trial.

PROSECUTION EVIDENCE

6. To prove its case, prosecution has got examined following witnesses:-

Sr. No.	Name Of Witness	Documents/Details
PW-1	Kulpartap Singh	Ex.PW1/A Application Ex.PW1/B Supplementary statement Ex.PW1/C Original bill of Mobile Ex.PW1/D Production memo
PW-2	Sh. Aditya Rampal,	Ex.PW2/A copy of order dated

	Ahlmad	21.01.2025 vide which accused Dharamveer Grover was declared Proclaimed Person.
PW-3	HC Baldev Singh	Ex.PW3/A Arrest memo Ex.PW3/B Personal search memo Ex.PW3/C Intimation memo regarding his arrest
PW-4	ASI Major Singh	-
PW-5	Akshay Kumar @ Sunny	-
PW-6	SC Gurmukh Singh	-
PW-7	ASI Pal Singh	Ex.PW7/A Police proceedings Ex.PW7/B FIR Ex.PW7/C Site plan Ex.PW7/E DDR No.33 dated 01.03.2023

No other evidence led by the prosecution and same was closed by order on dated 06.06.2026.

STATEMENT UNDER SECTION 313 CR.P.C

7. After the closure of prosecution evidence, all the incriminating circumstances appearing against the accused were put to the accused while recording his statement under section 313 of the Cr.P.C. The accused denied each and every allegations leveled against them and pleaded his innocence. He opted to lead evidence in defence but has failed to do so.

ARGUMENTS

8. I have heard the learned APP for the State and the learned defence counsel at length and have perused the case file carefully.

9. The **Ld. APP for the State** has argued that from the testimonies of prosecution witnesses, the guilt of accused, for an offence punishable under Sections 384 r.w.s 511, 34 IPC and 506 IPC, stands fully proved and as such, the accused may kindly be convicted for having committed offence afore-said and punished according to law.

10. The **Ld. Counsel for the accused** has argued that from the testimonies of prosecution witnesses, the guilt of accused, for an offence punishable under Sections 384 r.w.s 511, 34 IPC and 506 IPC, does not stands proved. Also, the prosecution has failed to examine material witness who could link the present accused with commission of offence and thus, the accused may kindly be acquitted for having committed offence.

APPRECIATION OF EVIDENCE AND REASONS THEREOF:

11. The allegations as leveled by the prosecution against the present accused on dated 21.02.2023 at 11:30 AM in the area of PS Talwandi Bhai, accused Dharamveer Grover along with his co-accused (already acquitted vide judgment dated 18.07.2025) attempted to intentionally put Kulpratap Singh in fear of injury and dishonestly

induced him to deliver Rs.10 Lacs and committed criminal intimidation by threatening him with intent to cause injuries to his person.

12. In order to prove the case, the prosecution has examined **Kulpartap Singh son of Gurpreet Singh, resident of Ward No.1, Talwandi Bhai, Tehsil and District Ferozepur as PW-1** who deposed on 21.02.2023, he got a ransom call on his whatsapp No. 8573000015 from an unknown caller bearing No. +4915217860521 at around 11:31 AM. The caller demanded 10 lacs Rupees and told me that he has information about the routes taken by him and his family members to the adjoining villages in connection of their grocery work. He also mentioned the names of his family members i.e. of his father Gurpreet Singh and of his brother Navdeep Singh. He gave him one hours to discuss the extortion amount with his family members and threatened him with dire consequences of killing him and his family members, if he did not took any decision to provide the extortion money. As a precautionary measure and for taking the legal action against the caller, on the same day, he moved one application to SHO, P.S. Talwandi Bhai, which is Ex. PW1/A and signed by him at point-A and he identify his signatures. On this application, an FIR was lodged dated 23.02.2023. During the investigation, he had handed over his mobile phone to the police officials, on which, he

received threatening calls from the accused persons. On 01.03.2023, he got recorded his supplementary statement with the police about the involvement of accused Manpreet Singh alias Peeta in the aforementioned extortion call, which is Ex. PW1/B and he identify his signatures at point-A on the statement.

On 06.01.2024, he produced original bill of mobile on which he got the extortion call which is Ex. PW1/C, which is in the name of his firm Sardar Karayana Store and the production memo is Ex. PW1/D, which is signed by him. He had shown the place of occurrence to the police official and at his instance police official had prepared rough site plan. His statement was recorded by the I.O.

Prosecution has further examined **Sh. Aditya Rampal, Ahlmad in this Court as PW-2** who deposed that the case titled as State of Punjab Vs. Manpreet Singh @ Peeta was pending and after that it was decided on 18.07.2025 by this Hon'ble Court. During the pendency of he above titled case, the accused Dharamveer Grover was declared Proclaimed Person vide order dated 21.01.2025. The order dated 21.02.2025 is annexed on judicial file and the same is Ex.PW2/A on which he identify the signature of undersigned at Point A.

Prosecution has further examined **HC Baldev Singh No.692/FZR PS Talwandi Bhai as PW-3** who deposed that on 15.01.2026, he alongwith I.O/ASI Major Singh, S.CT Gurpreet Singh, PHG Kabal Singh went on a government vehicle to Guru Ram Dass Airport Amritsar, as Airport Authority of Raja Sansi Airport apprehended the accused Dharamveer Grover, who was declared P.O in the present case. The airport authority had handed over the accused Dharamveer Grover to the I.O. I.O made the arrest of accused Dharamveer vide arrest memo Ex. PW3/A. His personal search was conducted vide memo Ex. PW3/B and intimation regarding his arrest was given vide memo Ex. PW3/C. All the memos were prepared in his presence. He signed the said memo as witness and he identify his signatures on the said memos at point-A.

Prosecution has further examined **ASI Major Singh No.828/FZR PS Talwandi Bhai as PW-4** who deposed that on 15.01.2026, he alongwith H.C Baldev Singh, S.CT Gurpreet Singh, PHG Kabal Singh went on a government vehicle to Guru Ram Dass Airport Amritsar, as Airport Authority of Raja Sansi Airport apprehended the accused Dharamveer Grover, who was declared P.O in the present case. The airport authority had handed over the accused Dharamveer Grover to him. He made the arrest of accused Dharamveer vide arrest memo Ex. PW3/A.

His personal search was conducted vide memo Ex. PW3/B and intimation regarding his arrest was given vide memo Ex. PW3/C. All the memos were prepared in presence of H.C Baldev Singh. He signed the said memo as witness. He recorded the statement of witnesses.

Prosecution has further examined **Akshay Kumar @ Sunny, Proprietor of Sunny Mobile Hub, Vohra Market, Talwandi Bhai, District Ferozepur as PW-5** who deposed that on 17.07.2022, complainant Kulpartap Singh came to his shop for the purchase of mobile phone and purchase one mobile phone in the name of his firm Sardar Karyana Store for Rs. 14,000/-. He has seen the original mobile bill issued by him, which is already Ex.PW1/C and signed by him at point-A. His statement was recorded by the I.O

Prosecution has further examined **S.C. Gurmukh Singh No.1372/FZR PS Talwandi Bhai as PW-6** who deposed that on 06.01.2024, complainant Kulpartap Singh came present before I.O ASI Dilbagh Singh and produced one mobile phone bill, which is already Ex. PW1/C and the same was taken into possession vide memo already Ex. PW1/D by the I.O and the same was witnessed by him. He identify his signature on the memo at Point A. His statement was recorded by the I.O.

Lastly, prosecution has examined **ASI Pal Singh No.605/FZR PS City Moga as PW-7** who deposed that on 21.02.2023, an application about the alleged extortion calls was given and signed by Kulpartap Singh, which is already Ex. PW1/A to SHO, Talwandi Bhai was marked to him for inquiry. On 23.02.2023, after due inquiry, police proceedings were initiated, which is Ex. PW7/A and FIR against unknown persons, which is Ex. PW7/B was lodged by ASI Baljit Singh. On the same day, he went to the spot and prepared site plan with the marginal notes, which is Ex. PW7/C. He recorded the statement of concerned witnesses.

On 01.03.2023, complainant Kulpartap Singh got recorded his supplementary statement signed by him about the involvement of Manpreet Singh alias Peeta in the extortion calls, which is already Ex. PW1/B. On the basis of his statement, accused Manpreet Singh alias Peeta was nominated in the present case vide DDR No.33 dated 01.03.2023 and the copy of which is Ex. PW7/D. After that he got transferred and he handed over the case file to concerned MHC.

FINDINGS OF THE COURT

13. I have carefully considered the rival contentions raised by learned APP for State as well as learned defence counsel.

14. In order to bring home the charges against the present accused for offence under Section 384 IPC, the prosecution was to prove the following ingredients:

- a) Deliberately putting a person in fear of hurt or injury
- b) Dishonest inducement to the person
- c) Delivery of valuable security

The essential ingredients of extortion under Section 383 IPC, as laid down by the Hon'ble Apex Court in ***R.S. Nayak v. A.R. Antulay*** **1984 AIR 684**, are:

“60. ... The main ingredients of the offence are:

- (i) the accused must put any person in fear of injury to that person or any other person;*
- (ii) the putting of a person in such fear must be intentional;*
- (iii) the accused must thereby induce the person so put in fear to deliver to any person any property, valuable security or anything signed or sealed which may be converted into a valuable security; and*
- (iv) such inducement must be done dishonestly. Before a person can be said to put any person in fear of any injury to that person, it must appear that he has held out some threat to do or omit to do what he is legally bound to do in future. If all that a man does is to promise to do a thing which he is not legally bound to do and says that if money is not paid to him he would*

not do that thing, such act would not amount to an offence of extortion. ...”

15. After having perused the entire material on record, this court is of the considered opinion that there is no evidence which could connect the accused with the alleged crime as the star witnesses i.e. the complainant, who is the best person to depose qua the alleged incident, has failed to bring on record call details. The complainant has merely placed on record the application Ex.PW1/A but there is nothing to show that the number +4915217860521 was used by present accused facing the trial. The Investigating Wing has failed to take possession of the original source i.e. the mobile phone of the complainant from where the authenticity and validity of said calls details could be adjudged. The testimony of PWs involving culpability of the present accused revolves only around information received by the IO about extortion call made to present complainant by the accused. However, a mere telephonic conversation does not prove the offence against the present accused. Also, there is nothing on record to prove that the complainant ever received call from +4915217860521. No endeavour is being made by the Investigating Wing to bring on record the details from whatsapp. Neither there is any proof that the said number was used by the present accused nor any

tower location of the accused connecting with the calls is placed on record. Even, Ex.PW1/A i.e. the Supplementary statement given by the complainant nowhere reflects that as to how the complainant got to know about the name of the accused. There is no evidence on record whether the number +4915217860521 exists in real or not. The present case suffers from infirmities on the part of investigating agency against the present accused.

16. Further, the complaint of the complainant alleged that a Whatsapp Call was made to his mobile number demanding money and in failure to do so, they would hurt the complainant and his family. However, no such detail of any Whatsapp number whatsoever is annexed as a material, either in the complaint or in the chargesheet that has been presented before the Court of undersigned. The pivotal material in such like complaint is the Whatsapp detail and in the absence, mere assertions and allegations that the complainant was threatened by the accused, prima facie does not have any legs to stand the judicious scrutiny. The evidence on the basis of which the accused has been chargesheeted is a relevant and requisite material to be furnished at the time filing of the charge sheet and in the absence of the same, no amount of further investigation would suffice to cure the defect. No fruitful material, which is said to be

unearthed by the prosecution has been stated in the arguments by the prosecution also. Even, the first information report, as is well known, must be read in entirety does not point out to any iota of material in the form of phone records, phone numbers, whatsapp call, which in any way implicates the accused in the commission of the alleged offences. There are mere references of phone conversation, but no specific detail as to the phone numbers or the whatsapp number form part of the first information report. No request has been made to any of the service provider to furnish the details of the alleged communications. It is to be seen that since the filing of the present complaint i.e. in year 2023, till now, the law enforcing agency has not collected any material record from the service provider with regard to the alleged whatsapp call. This clearly shows the lethargic attitude of law enforcing agency in collecting the relevant material on record. The fulcrum of the present case is whatsapp call which is said to have been made to the complainant but no endeavour has been made to collect and submit the call record of the complainant or from the alleged number. Further, from the testimony of PW-1 Kulpartap Singh, it is explicit that he never named the accused in his application nor his name was disclosed by him to the police. Even, from the statement of Investigating Officer, nothing is explicit as to how the present accused

Dharamveer Grover was linked with the present scene of occurrence. Neither there was any recovery of phone from him nor any call recording was verified from the phone of present accused. Thus, the evidence on file is bereft of sufficient record to bring home the charges against the present under Section 384 IPC read with Section 511 IPC.

17. Further, the prosecution has leveled the allegations for criminally intimidating the present accused and threatening the complainant of the dire consequences. However, no witness while deposing in favor of the prosecution has uttered a single word which could bring home the charges under Section 506 IPC. Mere general allegations as to criminal intimidation does not attract 506 in every case. The complainant has nowhere stated that in his testimony that any alleged threat was advanced to him or that alleged threat has false and alarm to him.

18. The threat must be real in the sense that the accused should mean what he says and the victim of the threat should be threatened actually. A threat with mens rea to cause injury is an essential ingredient of the offence u/s 506 IPC and mere empty threat does not fulfill the requirements of section 506 of IPC.

In *1988 (3) Crimes (Bombay) 319* titled as *V.M. Sanghi and anr. Vs. R.G Tiwari and anr.*, it has been held that :

“a mere threat is not sufficient to attract the charge of criminal intimidation. The threat should be given with intent to cause alarm to the person threatened.”

Similar view was taken in *1991 (2) Recent Criminal Reports, 518 (P & H) titled as Ram Niwas Kosalia Vs. Narender Kumar Jain.*

19. Consequently the offence under Section 506 of IPC is not made out.

20. The prosecution has also examined PW-3 HC Baldev Singh, PW-4 ASI Major Singh, PW-6 SC Gurmukh Singh, PW-7 ASI Pal Singh to prove its case and the investigation conducted in the present case but the testimonies of the said witnesses are of no help to the prosecution case as they are just formal witnesses.

CONCLUSION

21. It is the cardinal principle of criminal jurisprudence that the prosecution is to prove its case against the accused beyond the shadow of all reasonable doubts but in the present case, the prosecution has failed to do so. Since, the prosecution has miserably failed to connect accused Dharamveer Grover with the alleged occurrence and as such, **accused Dharamveer Grover is acquitted** of the charge framed against him in the

present case. Case property, if any be disposed of as per rules after decision of the appeal/revision, if any. File be consigned to the Judicial Record Room, Ferozepur, after due compliance.

*Note. Certified that 20 pages of this judgment
are signed by me and have been dictated
and typed directly on computer.*

Pronounced in open Court.

Date of Order: 20.07.2026

(Neha)

Stenographer Gr.III

sd/-

(Harpreet Kaur), PCS
Judicial Magistrate Ist Class,

Ferozepur.

UID No. PB0526