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IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

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Decided on : 24.04.2026

Simranjit Singh @ Simran

. . . Petitioner(s)

Versus

State of Punjab

. . . Respondent(s)

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY VASHISTH

Present : Ms. G.K. Mann, Sr. Advocate with
Mr. Anmol Jeevan S. Gill, Advocate
for the petitioner(s).

Mr. Manjinder Singh Bhullar, DAG Punjab

SANJAY VASHISTH, J. (Oral)

1. The instant petition has been filed under Section 483 of BNSS, 2023 (earlier Section 439 Cr.P.C.), for grant of regular bail to the petitioner, during the pendency of trial, who has been booked in a criminal case arising out of First Information Report, as detailed hereunder:-

Name of Petitioner(s)	FIR No.	Date	Section(s)	Police Station	District
Simranjit Singh @ Simran, aged 42 years	0018	09.03.2025	103(1), 3(5), 61(2), 254, 262, 111 of BNS and Sections 25, 54, 59 of Arms Act	Mehta	Amritsar Rural

3. As per case of the prosecution, complainant Gurwinder Singh got the present FIR registered stating that on 08.03.2025, a *langar* was organized for the village community, in which he along with his brother Varinder Pal Singh @

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Vicky was serving as a volunteer. At about 2:35 p.m., three young men arrived on a motorcycle with their faces uncovered. After stopping the motorcycle, the two pillion riders allegedly pushed Varinder Pal Singh @ Vicky to the ground, and thereafter all three of them started firing at him while he was lying on the ground.

On the third day of investigation, i.e., 10.03.2025, secret information was received regarding the involvement of certain persons in the crime, namely:(i) Baljinder Singh @ Dony,(ii) Jobanjit Singh @ Billa Arjan Manga,(iii) Manu,(iv) Kaushal Chaudhary,(v) Joban Saidoke,(vi) Prabh Dasuwal, (vii) Gurwinder Singh @ Faridi,(viii) Gagandeep Singh @ Daddi,(ix) Ratandeep Kumar, and (x) Pardeep Kumar.

After the arrest of accused Pardeep Kumar on 10.03.2025, and on the basis of his disclosure statement, Kawaljeet Kaur, Amrik Singh, and Anshuman @ Danish were also implicated.

On 11.03.2025, a supplementary statement under Section 161 Cr.P.C. of complainant Gurwinder Singh was recorded, wherein three more persons, namely Sukhwinder Kaur, Kulwant Singh, and Sarabjit Singh, were also arrayed as accused.

It is informed by learned counsel for the petitioner that through the supplementary statement dated 11.03.2025, a total of 13 accused were named, and during the course of investigation, as many as 33 persons were ultimately arrayed as accused.

During investigation, it further surfaced that the persons who allegedly fired collectively upon deceased Varinder Pal Singh @ Vicky were:(i) Bikramjit Singh, (ii) Sharanjeet Singh, and (iii) Bishambarjit Singh (who has since expired).



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Submissions on Behalf of the Petitioner

4. Learned counsel for the petitioner argues that present petitioner was not present at the spot at the time of occurrence. Three persons allegedly were involved in the actual firing, namely Bikramjit Singh, Sharanjeet Singh, and Bishambarjit Singh (since deceased).

Name of petitioner-Simranjit Singh @ Simran was involved on the basis of disclosure statement of co-accused Sharanjit Singh. He further submits that co-accused namely Kanwaljit Kaur, Amrik Singh, Pardeep Kumar, Anshuman @ Danish, Sukhwinder Kaur, Kulwant Singh and Sarabjit Singh have already been granted bail by this Court vide common order dated 26.02.2026 passed in CRM-M-22549-2025 and other connected cases.

Counsel for the petitioner further submits that there were only two material witnesses, namely complainant Gurwinder Singh and Mehnga Singh, and both have resiled from their earlier statements, while deposing on oath before the Court.

Submissions on Behalf of the State

6. Learned State counsel does not dispute the aforementioned factual position, including the role attributed to the accused persons. He is also unable to controvert the submission that the material witnesses, namely Gurwinder Singh and Mehnga Singh, have turned hostile and have not supported the case of the prosecution.

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

8. Primary allegations of firing is against accused Bikramjit Singh, Sharanjeet Singh, and Bishambarjit Singh (since deceased). Present petitioner is

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not alleged to be present at the place of occurrence. Case against them is primarily based on allegations of conspiracy and ancillary roles.

It is also a matter of record that the two material witnesses have turned hostile and have not supported the prosecution case. Furthermore, petitioner is in custody since April 2025, i.e., for approximately more than a year, and the trial is likely to take considerable time to conclude. Moreover, co-accused namely Kanwaljit Kaur, Amrik Singh, Pardeep Kumar, Anshuman @ Danish, Sukhwinder Kaur, Kulwant Singh and Sarabjit Singh have already been granted bail by this Court vide common dated 26.02.2026 passed in CRM-M-22549-2025 and other connected cases. In view of the above facts and circumstances, this Court finds merit in the prayer made by the petitioner.

Accordingly, 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.

9. 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.

10. Petition stands disposed of.

(SANJAY VASHISTH)
JUDGE

April 24, 2026

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Whether speaking/reasoned:
Whether Reportable:

Yes/No
Yes/No