



**CORRECTED**

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA  
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION**

**CRIMINAL APPEAL No.1341/2026  
[Arising out of SLP (Cr.) No.18775/2025]**

**PARDEEP KUMAR @ BANU                      APPELLANT**

**VERSUS**

**STATE OF PUNJAB                                      RESPONDENT**

**ORDER**

1. Leave granted.
2. The High Court of Punjab and Haryana at Chandigarh, by the impugned judgment and order dated 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2025, has rejected the appellant's prayer for bail.
3. Appellant, figuring as an accused in FIR No.17 dated 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2024 registered at Police Station Mahilpur, District Hoshiarpur, Punjab under Sections 386, 307, 506 and 120-B of the Indian Penal Code<sup>1</sup>, 1860 and Sections 25(6) and 27 of the Arms Act, 1959 (Sections 482 and

1 IPC

411 of IPC added later on), was arrested on 13<sup>th</sup> April, 2024.

4. We have heard learned counsel for the parties.

5. Prosecution proposes to examine 23 witnesses to drive home the charges against the appellant, but none has been examined. Thus, the trial is likely to take some time to conclude.

6. Almost two years have passed since the appellant was arrested without trial having commenced and conclusion thereof nowhere being in sight. Incarceration without trial amounts to punishment.

7. Taking an overall view of the matter, we are of the considered opinion that further detention of the appellant pending trial is not necessary; and, since the appeal deserves acceptance, the appellant may be admitted to an order for grant of bail.

8. Accordingly, we set aside the impugned

judgment and order.

9. Appellant shall be released on bail, subject to furnishing of bail bonds to the satisfaction of the trial court and subject to such other terms and conditions as may be imposed by it.

10. Needless to observe, the appellant shall not, directly or indirectly, by making inducement, threat or promise, dissuade any person acquainted with the facts of the case from disclosing such facts to the court.

11. In the event there is any breach of the terms and conditions for grant of bail, the trial court shall be at liberty to cancel the bail of the appellant.

12. It is also ordered that the appellant shall diligently attend proceedings of the trial, unless exempted. If he abstains from attending the proceedings without justifiable cause, that could also be seen as breach of the conditions for

grant of bail and the trial court will be free to pass appropriate orders.

13. We clarify that the observations made in this order and grant of bail will not be treated as findings on the merits of the case.

14. The appeal is, accordingly, allowed on the aforesaid terms.

15. Pending application(s), if any, shall stand disposed of.

.....J.  
**(DIPANKAR DATTA)**

.....J.  
**(PRASANNA B. VARALE)**

**New Delhi;  
March 13, 2026.**



**UPON hearing the counsel the Court made  
the following  
O R D E R**

1. Leave granted.
2. The appeal is allowed in terms of the corrected signed order.
3. Pending application(s), if any, shall stand disposed of.

<b>(MANIK KUMAR)</b> <b>SENIOR PERSONAL ASSISTANT</b>	<b>(SUDHIR KUMAR SHARMA)</b> <b>COURT MASTER (NSH)</b>
<b>(corrected signed order is placed on the file)</b>	

**ITEM NO.5**

**COURT NO.8**

**SECTION II-B**

**S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A  
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**

**Petition for Special Leave to Appeal (Crl.)  
No.18775/2025**

**[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 11-07-2025 in CRMM No.24915/2025 passed by the High Court of Punjab & Haryana at Chandigarh]**

**PARDEEP KUMAR @ BANU**

**Petitioner**

**VERSUS**

**STATE OF PUNJAB**

**Respondent**

**I.A. No.284306/2025-EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF  
THE IMPUGNED JUDGMENT**

**I.A. No.284307/2025-PERMISSION TO FILE ADDITIONAL  
DOCUMENTS/FACTS/ANNEXURES**

**Date : 13-03-2026 This matter was called on for  
hearing today.**

**CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE DIPANKAR DATTA  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PRASANNA B. VARALE**

**For Petitioner(s) :Mr. Gaurav Goyal, Adv.  
Ms. Srija Choudhury, AOR**

**For Respondent(s) :Ms. Abha Sharma, AOR  
Mr. Anupam Maurya, Adv.  
Mr. Praneet Das, Adv.**

**UPON hearing the counsel the Court made  
the following  
O R D E R**

1. Leave granted.
2. The appeal is allowed in terms of the signed order.
3. Pending application(s), if any, shall stand disposed of.

**(MANIK KUMAR)  
SENIOR PERSONAL ASSISTANT**

**(SUDHIR KUMAR SHARMA)  
COURT MASTER (NSH)**