

Wanted Dhanda gang aide held, 28th under Op Hard Ball

Captured In California 2 Days After ‘Wanted’ Poster Issued

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Chandigarh: The US authorities have arrested Harmanveer Singh, who is linked to a drug network involving Canada-based alleged drug lord Ravinder Singh Dhanda, in Stockton, California, bringing the total number of arrests under Operation Hard Ball to 28 across three federal indictments.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) said Harmanveer was captured on Tuesday by the California Highway Patrol two days after it issued a wanted poster. Wanted for conspiracy to distribute and export controlled substances, he was named in a federal arrest warrant issued in California on June 23.

According to the FBI, the Vancouver-based Ravinder Dhanda organised crime gro-

TRACKING THE SYNDICATES

➤ **Harmanveer Singh arrested in California** under FBI’s Operation Hard Ball

➤ **28 arrests** made so far across **three federal indictments**

➤ **37 accused** charged in probe into organised **crime and drug trafficking** networks

➤ **Gangs linked to Ravinder Dhanda, Jaggu Bhagwanpuria and Lawrence Bishnoi** under scanner

➤ **FBI has announced \$50,000 reward** for information leading to Goldy Brar’s arrest



Major Arrests

- **Nitish Kaushal** alias Lala arrested in Vermont (July 16)
- Punjab Police Inspector **Gurinderjit Singh Nagra** arrested (July 17)
- **Garinder Deo** alias Doctor arrested in France (July 7)

Fugitives Still Wanted

- **10 accused** remain at large
- **7 in US, 2 in India, 1 in Europe**

up smuggled bulk quantities of cocaine and methamphetamine for drug trafficking networks across the US, Canada and Mexico.

Unsealed on July 7, the indictments charge 37 defendants in a years-long federal investigation targeting Indian

crime syndicates involved in racketeering, targeted killings, extortion and international narcotics smuggling. Initially, 24 defendants were taken into custody across the US, Canada and Europe, while law enforcement continues to seek 10 fugitives, with seven in the

United States, two in India, and one in Europe.

On July 16, Nitish Kaushal alias Lala, linked to the Jaggu Bhagwanpuria organised crime group, was arrested in Vermont while attempting to cross into Canada, two days after his FBI wanted poster was issued.

Inspector Gurinderjit Singh Nagra was arrested by Punjab Police on July 17. The former Tanda (Hoshiarpur district) SHO was charged in the US indictment for attempting to extort \$400,000 (Rs 3.8 crore) from an Indian family based in the US by threatening to implicate them in a murder case.

Garinder Deo alias ‘Doctor’ was arrested in France on July 7 by Canadian authorities. Deo allegedly funded the Bhagwanpuria syndicate by purchasing bulk cocaine and heroin for US transit, including a 100kg shipment intercepted in June 2025.

The FBI has offered a reward of up to \$50,000 for information leading to the arrest of Goldy Brar, alleged North American leader of the Lawrence Bishnoi organised crime group.

Drug smuggling accused dies during treatment, family alleges torture

Dinesh Sharma | TNN

Fazilka: A man arrested for allegedly smuggling drugs and arms in Fazilka district died during treatment at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Bathinda. The deceased, Paramjit Singh, resident of Mohammadewala village in the Jalalabad subdivision of Fazilka, was arrested on July 17 in connection with a heroin and arms smuggling case.

Paramjit’s father, Karnail Singh, accused the police of entering their home and torturing his son. He said Paramjit was differently-abled and ran a photography/video studio in the village. Police have denied the charges, stating that Paramjit died as his health deteriorated. Karnail alleged a team from the Jalalabad (City) police station raided their home on July 17. He said the police team removed the family members, including children, from the house, locked son Paramjit in a room, and beat him severely.

Regarding the police’s claim of recovering Rs 2.5 lakh in drug money from Paramjit, Karnail stated that they were

given no information about it. He argued that if any recovery had been made, the family should have been informed. Karnail said Paramjit’s son, Sajjan, was currently lodged in the Faridkot jail in a case under the NDPS Act. “We do not even go to visit him. If he is running a network from inside the jail, it is a failure of the police and the administration. Innocent family members should not be harassed for this,” he said. However, DSP Lavdeep Singh Gill dismissed all allegations of Paramjit’s family. He said no torture or improper interrogation of Paramjit took place while he was in police custody.

DSP Gill said five persons were arrested during a raid on July 17, during which illegal weapons, 750 grams of heroin and drug money were recovered. Paramjit was found in possession of Rs 2.5 lakh in drug money. According to police officials, Paramjit’s health deteriorated during the arrest. He was taken to the govt hospital in Jalalabad, from where he was referred to AIIMS, Bathinda, due to his critical condition, where he passed away during treatment.

NDPS undertrial dies weeks after jail clash

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Patiala: An undertrial booked under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act died at Government Medical College and Hospital (GMCH), Sector 32, Chandigarh, weeks after he was critically injured in a violent clash between rival inmate groups inside Patiala Central Jail.

Ajay, a resident of Patiala, had been lodged in the jail along with his brother Vijay in an NDPS case. The two were among inmates injured in the July 11 clash inside the high-security prison.

Patiala-2 deputy superintendent of police Jangjit Singh said the clash broke out between two rival groups of inmates. Ajay and Vijay were initially admitted to Rajindra Hospital in Patiala. While Vijay recovered after treatment, Ajay, who suffered grievous injuries, was re-

ferred to GMCH, Chandigarh, where he succumbed on Wednesday.

Following his death, police have added murder charges to the FIR already registered in connection with the jail violence.

The incident has once again put the spotlight on security inside Punjab’s prisons, where overcrowding has often made it difficult to keep rival inmate groups apart. A magisterial inquiry is expected to examine the circumstances that led to the clash, including possible security lapses and whether improvised weapons were used.

NGT scrutiny: Pb cancels leases of liquor vends on forest land

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Chandigarh: Following scrutiny by the National Green Tribunal (NGT), the Punjab water resources department has cancelled the leases of several liquor vends operating on protected forest land along canal banks and initiated eviction proceedings against them.

The action stems from an application filed before the NGT’s principal bench by the Public Action Committee through member Kapil Dev, alleging that liquor vends were illegally allowed to operate on land owned by the irrigation and forest departments.

An affidavit filed before the tribunal by Damandeep Singh, executive engineer, Ropar Canal and Ground Wa-

ter Division, stated that the department had cleared unauthorised occupants along the Sirhind and Bist Doab canals and auctioned the vacant sites on July 7, 2025, to generate state revenue. The department noted that the forest department raised no objections during the auction.

However, the divisional forest officer (DFO), Ludhiana, informed the department on Dec 8, 2025, that the concerned sites were protected forest land under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. On June 26 this year, the DFO, Ropar, identified three additional sites falling on protected land, prompting immediate cancellation of the leases.

The affected sites include vends at Bande Mahalan village (Sirhind Canal Burji

22000/L), Kamalpur (35000/L), Bassi Gujran (75000/L), and Pavatt (105000/L), where eviction proceedings are now underway. At Garhi Tarkhana village, the lease was cancelled and the site has already been vacated. A liquor vend near Ropar’s New Bus Stand was found to be outside protected forest limits, requiring no action.

The affidavit also highlighted that a lessee challenged the cancellation in court, but the Punjab and Haryana high court dismissed the writ petition on May 6 this year, upholding the department’s decision. Maintaining that the original leases were granted in good faith, the department assured the NGT that it will cancel any further leases if additional sites are identified as protected forest land.

Felling of trees: Notices served to three officials

Neel Kamal | TNN

Bathinda: Punjab water resources department has issued notices to an executive engineer and two sub-divisional engineers in connection with felling of trees and violation of environmental norms during the remodelling and lining of the side slope of the Sirhind Canal in Ludhiana and adjoining areas.

The July 21 notices have asked executive engineer Damandeep Singh and SDOs Aawaldeep Singh and Deevanshu Sharma to reply within 15 days.

Pro-environment Public Action Committee had approached the National Green Tribunal (NGT) accusing contractors of felling trees and destroying flora and fauna by dumping

machinery in the forest land during the canal remodelling.

The forest department has recovered Rs 12.92 lakh from contractors for the damage.

An affidavit submitted by water resources department principal secretary Krishan Kumar to the NGT, uploaded on Thursday, said an action-taken report has been sought regarding recovery of the amount pertaining to timber of the illegally felled trees. Details have also been sought on deposit and utilisation of the amount required for compensatory plantation; status of plantation of 4,000 trees and their maintenance; and action or proceedings initiated against officers, officials and contractors.

3 held for Sangrur youth’s murder, body recovered after 10 days

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Sangrur: Lehra police have solved the murder of a 19-year-old youth from Ramgarh Sadhuan village, arresting three local men for allegedly killing him to rob his mobile phone and Rs 2,000. The victim’s severely decomposed body was exhumed on Monday from a shallow grave near Khai Basti in Lehra Ganga.

The victim, Harmandeep Singh, went missing on July 5. Following a complaint lodged by his father, Balkar Singh, on July 15, police registered a missing person report and initiated an investigation.

The arrested accused have been identified as Sonu, Mangu Kumar, and Lakhana, all aged between 18 and 25

Sarpanch murder: Three arrested

Hoshiarpur: Hoshiarpur police have arrested three more accused in murder case of Anandgarh sarpanch Satpal on Tuesday late evening. Earlier, one accused was held by the public at the spot. SSP Sandeep Malik said that the preliminary investigation suggested that the attack on the sarpanch was not premeditated, and the assailants had animosity with one Rohit, who took shelter at the sarpanch’s home.

The assailants came in a car and hit the sarpanch, ran over him at least twice and then also attacked him with sharp-edged weapons to ensure that he was killed. The SSP said that a total of six accused were named in the case. One accused, Anmol, was caught by the villagers at the spot, and he was later arrested by the police. Three other arrested accused include Anku, Anmolpreet Singh and Charanjit Singh. TNN

and residents of Khai Basti. Police said the trio robbed Harmandeep and subsequently murdered him to prevent identification, later burying his body under a tree to destroy evidence.

Investigators zeroed in on the suspects using human

intelligence and CCTV camera footage showing the victim last seen with one of the accused.

The family identified Harmandeep primarily by his clothes, as parts of the body had also been scavenged by stray animals.

Return home: Jathedar to Punjab youth in Southall

Yudhvir Rana | TNN

Amritsar: Akal Takht officiating jathedar Giani Kuldeep Singh Gargaji has urged youngsters not to sell their land or ancestral property to finance their dreams of settling abroad, saying migration should not come at the cost of losing their roots.

Interacting with youths from Punjab and Haryana in Southall, UK, Gargaji said many of them had expressed a desire to return to India after sharing the hardships they faced abroad.

The interaction, organised by United Sikhs at Gurdwara Sri Guru Singh Sabha in Southall, saw several youths claim

they had been duped by immigration agents who charged them lakhs of rupees and sent them to the UK through illegal or unauthorised routes.

The youths said the financial burden had pushed their families into distress and that the lack of valid documents or legal visas had left them with few employment opportuniti-

es and an uncertain future.

United Sikhs representative Bibi Narpinder Kaur said the organisation runs a weekly help desk at the gurdwara to assist people facing immigration and other issues. She said it also helps those wishing to return to India by coordinating with the UK and Indian govts for voluntary repatriation.

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E-AUCTION/ SALE NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR E-AUCTION FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE/MOVABLE PROPERTIES
DETAIL OF THE ENCUMBRANCES KNOWN TO THE SECURED CREDITORS: NOT KNOWN
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable/Movable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 read with provisions of Rule 8(6) & 6(2) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rule, 2002.
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the borrower(s), mortgagor(s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described movable/immovable property(ies) mortgaged/ hypothecated/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive/ physical (whichever is applicable) possession of which has been taken by the Authorized officer of Bank/ Secured Creditor/ will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on date as mentioned in the table herein below, for recovery of its dues due to the Bank/ Secured Creditor from the respective borrower(s) and guarantor(s). The reserve price and the earnest money deposit will be as mentioned in the table below against the respective properties.
SCHEDULE OF SALE OF THE SECURED ASSETS

Lot No.	Name of the Branch Name of the Account Name & addresses of the Borrower/Guarantors Account	Description of Immovable Mortgaged Property(ies) and Name of Owner(s)/ Mortgagors	Date of Demand Notice u/s 13(2) of SARFAESI Act 2002 Outstanding Amount Date of Possession Nature of Possession	Reserve Price Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Bid Increase Amount	Date and Time of E-Auction
1.	BO: SAMB: CHANDIGARH M/S DASHMESH AGRO INDUSTRIES M/s Dashmesh Agro Industries Tiwana Road, Jalalabad West District, Fazilka, Punjab - 152024, Mr. Ashwani Sidana (Partner) Guarantor) S/o Mr. Kishan Chand Danjan Dham Kanda, 2/18 Bagh Colony Jalalabad West, District Fazilka, Punjab-152024, Mr. Sumit Sidana (Partner/ Guarantor) S/o Mr. Ashwani Sidana, R/o Near Darpan Dham Kanda, 2/18 Bagh Colony Jalalabad West, District Fazilka, Punjab -152024, Mr. Shivam Sidana (Partner/ Guarantor) S/o Mr. Ashwani Sidana, R/o Near Darpan Dham Kanda, 2/18 Bagh Colony Jalalabad West, District Fazilka, Punjab -152024, Mrs. Ranju Sidana (Guarantor) W/o Mr. Ashwani Sidana, R/o Near Darpan Dham Kanda, 2/18 Bagh Colony Jalalabad West, District Fazilka, Punjab -152024, Mrs. Vandana Sidana (Guarantor) W/o Mr. Raman Sidana, R/o Backside of Kissan Colony, Street Opp. Veterinary Hospital, Jalalabad West, District Fazilka, Punjab -152024.	All parts and parcels of the property of commercial single storey building measuring 10.50 Marlas situated at Muktar Road, Near J.P. Palace, Jalalabad West bearing RTD No. 5749 dated 20.02.2013 standing in the name of Smt. Darpan Sidana	Rs. 29,50,89,781.96 as on 30.01.2020 with interest & costs, charges and other expenses thereon incurred from 01.01.2020 & less recovery. 19.12.2025 PHYSICAL POSSESSION	R.P.: Rs. 65,06,100/- EMD: Rs. 6,50,610/- Bid Increase amount: Rs. 1,00,000/-	10/08/2026 From 11.00 AM to 4.00 PM

CONTACT PERSON: SH. NAND KISHORE BARNWAL, AUTHORISED OFFICER, SAMB CHANDIGARH, MOB.: 9735244455
TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF E-AUCTION SALE
1. The sale shall be subject to the Terms & Conditions prescribed in the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 and to the following further conditions. The auction sale shall be "online through e-auction" portal <https://baanknet.com>
2. The intending Bidders/ Purchasers are requested to register on portal (<https://baanknet.com>) using their email-id and mobile number. The process of e-KYC is to be done through Digi locker. Once the e-KYC is done, the intending Bidders/ Purchasers may transfer the EMD amount to their e-Wallet using online/challan mode before the e-Auction Date and time in the portal. The registration, verification of e-KYC, transfer of EMD in wallet and linking of wallet amount to Property must be completed well in advance, before auction.
3. Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) amount as mentioned above shall be paid online/challan mode and will be credited in bidders e-Wallet. Bidders, not depositing the required EMD online, will not be allowed to participate in the e-auction. The Earnest Money Deposited shall not bear any interest.
4. Platform (<https://baanknet.com>) for e-Auction will be provided by e-Auction service provider M/s PSB Alliance Pvt. Ltd. having its Registered office at Unit 1, 3rd Floor, VIOS Commercial Tower, Near Wadala Truck Terminal, Wadala East, Mumbai-400037 (Helpdesk Number +91 8291220220, Email id: support.baanknet@psballiance.com). The intending Bidders/ Purchasers are required to participate in the e-Auction process at e-Auction Service Provider's website <https://baanknet.com> This Service Provider will also provide online demonstration/ training on e-Auction on the portal.
5. The Sale Notice containing the General Terms and Conditions of Sale is available / published in the following websites/ web page portal.
a. <https://baanknet.com>, b. www.pnbindia.in
6. The intending participants of e-auction may download free of cost, copies of the Sale Notice, Terms & Conditions of e-auction, Help Manual on operational part of e-Auction related to this e-Auction from e-auction portal (<https://baanknet.com>).
7. Bidder's e-Wallet should have sufficient balance (>=EMD amount) at the time of bidding.
8. During the e-auction, bidders will be allowed to offer higher bid in inter-se bidding over and above the last bid quoted and the increase in the bid amount must be of increment amount mentioned. 10 minutes time will be allowed to bidders to quote successive higher bid and if no higher bid is offered by any bidder after the expiry of 10 minutes to the last highest bid, the e-auction shall be closed.
9. It is the responsibility of intending Bidder(s) to properly read the Sale Notice, Terms & conditions of e-auction, Help Manual on operational part of e-Auction and follow them strictly.
10. In case of any difficulty or need of assistance before or during e-Auction process, bidder may contact authorized representative of our e-Auction Service Provider M/s PSB Alliance Pvt. Ltd. Details of which are available on the Baanknet portal.
11. After finalization of e-Auction by the Authorized Officer, only successful bidder will be informed by our above referred service provider through SMS/email. (On mobile no/ email address given by them/ registered with the service provider).
12. The secured asset will not be sold below the reserve price. The secured asset will only be sold at a price higher than the reserve price fixed for the property with at least one incremental Bid. The Bidder, at the time of commencement, shall give a minimum of one Bid increment at least greater than and over & above the reserve price fixed for the property. The property will not be sold and auction will not be confirmed, in case failed to fetch the price higher than the reserve price
13. The successful bidder shall have to deposit 25% (twenty five percent) of the bid amount, less EMD amount deposited, on the same day or not later than the next working day and the remaining amount shall be paid within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale through NEFT/RTGS/IMPS in account no. 834000317118A, IFSC Code: PUNB0834000, PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK, SAMB BRANCH, CHANDIGARH OR in the form of Banker's Cheque/ Demand Draft issued by a Scheduled Commercial Bank drawn in favor of "The Authorized Officer, Punjab National Bank, A/c (SUNDARY NPA SARFAESI AUCTION RELATED) Payable at Chandigarh". In case of failure to deposit the amounts as above within the stipulated time, the amount deposited by successful bidder will be forfeited to the Bank and Authorized Officer shall have the liberty to conduct a fresh auction/ sale of the property & the defaulting bidder shall not have any claim over the forfeited amount and the property.
14. Payment of sale consideration by the successful bidder to the bank will be subject to TDS under Section 194- 1A of Income Tax Act 1961 and TDS is to be made by the successful bidder only at the time of deposit of remaining 75 % of the bid amount/full deposit of BID amount.
15. The Authorized Officer reserves the right to accept any or reject all bids, if not found acceptable or to postpone/cancel/adjourn/discontinue or vary the terms of the auction at any time without assigning any reason whatsoever and his decision in this regard shall be final.
16. The sale certificate shall be issued in the favour of successful bidder on deposit of full bid amount as per the provisions of the act. No request for inclusion/substitution of names, other than those mentioned in the bid, in the sale certificate will be entertained. The Sale Certificate will be issued only in the name of the successful bidder.
17. The properties are being sold on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" and "WHATEVER THERE IS BASIS".
18. The particulars of Secured Assets specified in the Schedule hereinabove have been stated to the best of the information of the Authorized Officer, but the Authorized Officer shall not be answerable for any error, misstatement or omission in this proclamation.
19. It shall be the responsibility of the bidders to inspect and satisfy themselves about the asset and specification before submitting the bid. The bidder inspects the property in consultation with the dealing official as per the details provide.
20. All statutory dues/attendant charges/other dues including registration charges, stamp duty, taxes etc. shall have to be borne by the purchaser.
21. The Authorized Officer or the Bank shall not be responsible for any charge, lien, encumbrances, or any other dues to the Government or anyone else in respect of properties (E-Auctioned) not known to the bank. The Intending Bidder is advised to make their own independent inquiries regarding the encumbrances on the property including statutory liabilities, arrears of property tax, electricity dues etc.
22. The bidder should ensure proper internet connectivity, power back-up etc. The Bank shall not be liable for any disruption due to internet failure, power failure or technical reasons or reasons/contingencies affecting the e-auctions.
23. It is open to the Bank to appoint a representative and make self-bid and participate in the auction.
For detailed term and conditions of the sale, please refer <https://baanknet.com> & www.pnbindia.in.
Date: 23.07.2026
Place: Chandigarh
AUTHORIZED OFFICER
PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK, SAMB, CHANDIGARH

THE HEADLINES TELL YOU WHAT HAPPENED. TOI APP EXCLUSIVES TELL YOU WHY.