

NRI's kidnapped son found murdered in Punjab

The seven-year-old son of a non-resident Indian (NRI), allegedly kidnapped by a Punjab police official, was found dead Sunday near this Punjab town.

Police officials here said that the body of the child, Puneet Pal Singh, was recovered Sunday from the Kanjali rivulet near here. Kapurthala is about 200 km from Chandigarh.

Deputy superintendent of police S.S. Chhina said that the child seemed to have been strangled before being thrown into the rivulet. His body has been sent for post-mortem examination.

The police Saturday arrested special police officer (SPO) Manvir Singh of Punjab Police, a friend of the Spain-based NRI Sukhwinder Singh. Manvir Singh was arrested for kidnapping the child and later murdering him.

Police officials suspect that illicit relations between the SPO and the mother of the murdered child could be behind the killing of the boy.

The Kartarpur town police, 30 km from here, arrested Manvir Singh Saturday after his car got involved in an accident. The car belonged to the NRI.

The police found Rajinder Kaur, the NRI's wife and mother of the murdered child, sleeping on the rear seat of the car.

Kaur, an Australian citizen, is being questioned for her role in the crime.

The child was kidnapped by the SPO from outside his house in the Model town locality here while he was playing with his younger sister.

Manvir Singh first tried to strangle the girl but later kidnapped the boy.

The girl told family members that their father's friend had kidnapped her brother. The mother of the children was inside the house when the kidnapping took place.

The SPO was a regular visitor to the home of the NRI here.

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