APHC010350842026

IN THE HIGH COURT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
AT AMARAVATI **[3521]**
(Special Original Jurisdiction)

MONDAY, THE 17th DAY OF AUGUST 2026

PRESENT

THE HONOURABLE DR JUSTICE Y. LAKSHMANA RAO

CRIMINAL PETITION NO: 5646/2026

Between:

1. KRISHNA KHILA, S/O SEMBUAGE 20 YEARS, R/O CHINTALADOOLI VILLAGERALEGADA PANCHAYAT, CHITRAKONDA BLOCK, MALKANAGIRI DISTRICTODISHNA STATE 764052.
2. BUDRA GOLARI, S/O BISHUNATHAGE 21 YEARS, R/O BANAJHULI VILLAGE, RALEGADDA PANCHAYAT,CHITRA KONDA BLOCK, MALAKANAGIRI DISTRICT, ODISH STATE 764052

...PETITIONER/ACCUSED(S)

AND

THE STATE OF ANDHRA PRADESH, through Station House officer,Annavaram Police Station, VisakhapatnamRep. by Public Prosecutor,High Court at Amaravati.

...RESPONDENT/COMPLAINANT

Counsel for the Petitioner/accused(S):

RAMINENI SUDHEER

Counsel for the Respondent/complainant:

PUBLIC PROSECUTOR

The Court made the following:

ORDER:

The Criminal Petition has been filed under Sections 480 and 483 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (for brevity, 'the BNSS'), seeking to enlarge the petitioners/Accused Nos.1 and 3 on bail in Crime No.06 of 2026 of Annavaram Police Station, registered against the petitioners/Accused Nos.1 and 3 herein for the offences punishable under Sections 20(b)(ii)(C), 25 read with 8(c) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 (for brevity, 'the NDPS Act').

2. Heard the learned counsel for the petitioners and the learned Assistant Public Prosecutor. Perused the record.

3. As seen from the record, the petitioners are of an impressionable age of 20 and 21 years. They are residents of Odisha State and have fixed abodes. An extension petition was filed on the 163rd day, i.e., on 24.07.2026, seeking extension of judicial custody of the petitioners beyond 180 days. The said petition was allowed on the 179th day, i.e., on 10.08.2026. The allegation against the petitioners is that they were involved in dealing with 23.00 Kgs. of ganja, which is a commercial quantity. The petitioners were arrested on 12.02.2026 and have been in judicial custody for the past 186 days. There are no adverse antecedents reported against the petitioners.

4. The learned Trial Court, having perused the report submitted by the learned Public Prosecutor and being satisfied with the reasons stated therein

for seeking extension of the remand, rightly allowed the extension of judicial custody beyond 180 days. The learned counsel for the petitioners contended that the seized contraband is not pure ganja and that it consists of leaves, stems and seeds. However, the report discloses that the seized contraband is ganja as defined under the relevant provisions of law and that the quantity is commercial in nature.

5. Having regard to the entire facts and circumstances of the case, this Court is not inclined to enlarge the petitioners/Accused Nos.1 and 3 on bail. This Court finds no merit in the Criminal Petition. Accordingly, the Criminal Petition is liable to be dismissed.

6. In the result, the Criminal Petition is dismissed.

As a sequel, Miscellaneous petitions, if any pending, shall stand closed.

DR. Y. LAKSHMANA RAO, J

Date: 17.08.2026
RSI

23

THE HONOURABLE DR JUSTICE Y. LAKSHMANA RAO

CRIMINAL PETITION NO: 5646 of 2026

Date: 17.08.2026
RSI