

Party Name : SUDHANGSU PAUL ON BEHALF OF ACCD. SUSMITA PAUL Vs THE STATE OF TRIPURA

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HONBLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE DEEPAK GUPTA

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This is an application for grant of bail filed by the petitioner Shri Sudhangsu Paul on behalf of accused Smt. Susmita Paul in connection with Bishalgarh Police Station Case No.135 of 2014 [re-numbered as Special Case No.1(PC Act) of 2015], Special Case No.12 of 2015 (P.C. Act) and Special Case No.16 of 2015 (P.C. Act) registered against the accused and many other persons under Sections 120B/409/420 IPC read with Section 34 IPC and Section 13(2), Section 13(1) and Section 13(1)(d) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988.

The prosecution case, allegedly, is that there was a huge financial scam in Bishalgarh Block. Shri Bimal Chakraborty was the Block Development Officer(B.D.O) of the said Block and various other persons were working under him. It is alleged that various projects, to be implemented under the MGNREGS, PDF, TFC etc., were being undertaken and funds meant for utilization in these Schemes were misutilized.

This is a huge scam which has taken place in the State. As far as the present bail application is concerned, there is more than one charge sheet filed against the accused all arising out of the same FIR. I have gone through all the charge sheets. It is alleged that the works for which payment have been made were not at all undertaken but the implementing officer raised the bills and the BDO in question sanctioned payment of the bills.

The accused is a floriculturist and producing flowers. Admittedly, she had nothing to do with any of the schemes from which payment was made to her. In the charge sheets it has been stated that though no work was undertaken but Government money was siphoned out and paid to the accused Smt. Susmita Paul.

Now Charge sheets have been filed against the accused. Investigation is complete and, therefore, there is no question of any further investigation being done. The accused has been behind bar for 18 days. The main accused of this scam namely, Sri Bimal Chakraborty is out of jail and therefore, I see no reason when the main accused is on bail why the other co-accused should not be granted bail.

Therefore, the accused namely, Smt. Susmita Paul is directed to be enlarged on bail on her furnishing bail bond in the sum of Rs.25,000/- (rupees twenty five thousand) with two sureties in the like amount to the satisfaction of the learned trial Court undertaking therein:-

- (i) That, the accused is directed not to tamper with or in any manner influence the prosecution witnesses;
- (ii) That, the accused shall ensure that no threat directly or indirectly is given to any of the prosecution witnesses;
- (iii) The accused is further directed not to cause any hindrance in the investigation;
- (iv) The accused shall not leave Tripura without permission of the appropriate Court;
- (v) The accused shall appear before the trial Court on each and every date of hearing. In case, she absents herself on any date, then the trial Court shall cancel the bail and the accused shall be arrested. Thereafter, the accused shall have to again approach this Court for grant of bail;
- (vi) In case, the accused violates any of the conditions or tries to delay the trial, the prosecution shall be at liberty to apply for cancellation of bail.

With these observations, the bail application is disposed of.

On the petitioner filing application for supply of the copy on payment of appropriate fees, the copy of the same shall be supplied to the petitioner by tomorrow.