

THE HONOURABLE SMT JUSTICE K. SUJANA

CRIMINAL PETITION No.2573 of 2025

ORDER:

Seeking the Court to enlarge the petitioners, who are arrayed as accused Nos.2, 4 and 6 in Crime No.34 of 2025 of Khammam I Town Police Station, Khammam District, on pre-arrest bail, the present Criminal Petition is filed.

2. The brief facts of the case are that a complaint was filed by B. Balakrishna, Inspector of Police, Khammam I Town Police Station, against seven accused from Manappuram Finance Limited for allegedly auctioning 193.600 grams of mortgaged gold ornaments despite a pending Court case and Court orders. The accused, including branch managers and higher officials, allegedly defied Court orders and auctioned the ornaments, prompting the complainant to seize related documents and request action against them.

3. Heard Sri Bollapally Vikram, learned counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioners, and Sri Syed Yasar Mamoon, learned Additional Public Prosecutor appearing on behalf of the respondent-State.

4. Learned counsel for the petitioners submitted that the Petitioners are the employees of Manappuram Finance Limited, stating they auctioned properties, including the subject property, based on instructions from higher authorities to recover dues from non-performing assets. The petitioners deny any intentional wrongdoing and state they are poor, reliant on their salaries, and unlikely to abscond. The Petitioners assert their innocence, alleging false accusations, and undertake to cooperate with the investigating agency. Therefore, he prayed the Court to grant pre-arrest bail to the petitioners by allowing this criminal petition.

5. On the other hand, learned Additional Public Prosecutor vehemently opposed the submissions made by learned counsel for petitioners, stating that the allegations leveled against the petitioners are serious in nature. At this stage, granting of pre-arrest bail to the petitioners does not arise. Therefore, he prayed the Court to dismiss the Criminal Petition.

6. In light of the submissions made by both the learned counsel and a perusal of the material available on record, it appears that the petitioners are employees of Manappuram Finance Limited. Furthermore, based on instructions from higher authorities, the petitioners recovered dues from non-performing assets. Except for this, there are no specific allegations against the petitioners. Considering the facts and circumstances of the case, this Court deems it appropriate to grant pre-arrest bail to the petitioners subject to the following conditions:

- i. The petitioners shall surrender before the Station House Officer, Khammam I Town Police Station, Khammam District, within two weeks from today, and on such surrender, the said Station House Officer shall release them on bail on executing a personal bond for Rs.25,000/- with two sureties, for the like sum each.
- ii. The petitioners shall abide by the other conditions stipulated in Section 482(2) of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 and co-operate with the

Investigating Officer in investigating the case.

- iii. The petitioners shall appear before the concerned Investigating Officer on every Monday between 09:00 a.m, and 05:00 p.m., till the filing of the charge sheet and thereafter, as and when required.

7. Accordingly, this Criminal Petition is allowed.

Miscellaneous applications, if any pending, shall stand closed.

Date: 07.03.2025
SAI

K. SUJANA, J

THE HONOURABLE SMT JUSTICE K. SUJANA

CRIMINAL PETITION No.2573 of 2025

Date: 07.03.2025
SAI