

THE HONOURABLE SMT. JUSTICE K. SUJANA

CRIMINAL PETITION No.2616 of 2025

ORAL ORDER:

Seeking the Court to enlarge the petitioner, who is arrayed as accused No.1 in Crime No.2859 of 2024 of Cyber Crime Police Station, Hyderabad, on bail, the present Criminal Petition is filed.

2. The case of the prosecution is based on a complaint filed by the de facto complainant, who alleged that she received a WhatsApp video call from an unknown person. The caller claimed she was involved in human trafficking, threatened her with dire consequences, and demanded money. Under duress, she transferred Rs.9,05,265/-. Later, she realized she was a victim of cybercrime.

3. Heard Sri Katika Ravinder Reddy, learned counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioner as well as Sri Syed Yasar Mamoon, learned Additional Public Prosecutor appearing on behalf of the respondent - State.

4. Learned counsel for the petitioner submitted that the petitioner is a law-abiding citizen and sole breadwinner of his

family, claims innocence and denies any involvement in the alleged offence and that he has no prior convictions or accusations and has been falsely implicated. He further submitted that the material part of the investigation is completed, all material evidence seized, continued detention of the petitioner serves no purpose. The petitioner has been in jail for 49 days, causing unnecessary hardship to him and his family. Therefore, he prayed the Court to grant bail to the petitioners by allowing this criminal petition.

5. On the other hand, learned Additional Public Prosecutor opposed the submissions made by the learned counsel for the petitioner stating that the allegations leveled against the petitioner are serious in nature. Therefore, at this stage, granting of bail to the petitioner does not arise. Hence, he prayed the Court to dismiss the criminal petition.

6. After considering the submissions made by both learned counsel and reviewing the material available on record, it appears that the allegations leveled against the petitioner are under Sections 66-C, 66D of ITA-2000-2008, 111(2)(b), 308(2), 318(4), 319(2), 336(3), 338, 340(2) of BNS, carrying a maximum punishment of 10 years. The petitioner has been

incarcerated for 55 days, and the material part of the investigation is completed, including the examination of six witnesses. Considering the facts and circumstances of the case, this Court deems it fit and proper to grant bail to the petitioner subject to the following conditions:

- i. The petitioner shall execute a personal bond for a sum of Rs.25,000/- (Rupees Twenty Five Thousand only) each, with two sureties for a like sum each to the satisfaction of the learned XII Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Nampally, Hyderabad.
- ii. The petitioner shall appear before the concerned SHO at 11:00 a.m., on every Monday for a period of eight (8) weeks, for the purpose of investigation, and thereafter, as and when required.
- iii. The petitioner shall abide by the conditions stipulated in Section 437(3) of Cr.P.C.

7. Accordingly, the Criminal petition is allowed.

Miscellaneous applications, if any pending, shall stand closed.

K. SUJANA, J

Date: 24.02.2025
SAI

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