

THE HONOURABLE SMT. JUSTICE K. SUJANA

CRIMINAL PETITION No.10950 of 2025

ORDER:

Seeking the Court to enlarge the petitioner who are arrayed as accused No.1 in C.O.R.No.203 of 2025 on the file of the Prohibition & Excise Station, Bhadrachalam, registered for the offences punishable under Section 8(c) read with 20(b)(ii)(B) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 (for short 'NDPS Act'), on bail, the present Criminal Petition is filed.

2. The brief facts of the case are that on 02.08.2025, on credible information, the police intercepted the accused and seized 4.980 kilograms of dry ganja from Accused No.1 and 8.150 kilograms from Accused No.2, totaling 13.130 kilograms. The accused were subsequently arrested, and a case was registered against them *vide* C.O.R.No.203 of 2025 for the aforementioned offences.

3. Heard Sri B. Muralidhar, learned counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioner as well as Sri Arun Kumar Doddla, learned Additional Public Prosecutor appearing on behalf of the respondent-State.

4. Learned counsel for the petitioner submitted that the petitioner is innocent and that the seized contraband is just Intermediate Quantity and that all the material witnesses were examined, and further detention of the petitioner is unnecessary. He further submitted that the petitioner has been in judicial custody since 02.08.2025, causing undue hardship to his family and there are no criminal antecedents against the petitioner. Therefore, he prayed the Court to grant bail to the petitioner 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 although the seized contraband is of intermediate quantity, the investigation is not yet completed, therefore, granting bail to the petitioner, at this stage, does not arise. Hence, he prayed the Court to dismiss the criminal petition.

6. Considering the submissions of both learned counsel and upon perusal of the material available on record, it is observed that the seized contraband falls under the category of intermediate quantity and as the petitioner has been languishing in jail since 02.08.2025, and also material part of the investigation has been completed, this Court deems it fit 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), with two sureties for a like sum each to the satisfaction of the learned Judicial First Class Magistrate at Bhadrachalam.
- ii. The petitioner shall appear before the concerned SHO at 11:00 A.M., on every Monday for a period of eight (8) week or till filing of charge sheet whichever is earlier, 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.(presently, Section 480(3) of the BNSS).

7. Accordingly, the Criminal petition is allowed.

Miscellaneous applications, if any pending, shall stand closed.

K. SUJANA, J

Date: 02.09.2025
SS

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