

THE HONOURABLE SMT. JUSTICE K. SUJANA

CRIMINAL PETITION No.11693 of 2025

ORAL ORDER:

This Criminal Petition is filed under Section 482 of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (for short 'BNSS') for grant of pre-arrest bail to the petitioner, who is arrayed as accused No.4 in Crime No.198 of 2025 before the Chinnakodur Police Station, Siddipet District.

2. The brief facts of the case are that the complainant lodged a report on 20.08.2024 stating that his daughter Revathi was married to accused No.1, Srinivas, in 2016 by giving dowry in the form of cash, gold, a motorcycle, and household articles. After some time, accused Nos.1 and 2 (husband and mother-in-law) started harassing her for additional dowry. Revathi had two daughters, one of whom died in infancy, and later underwent family planning. Thereafter, the accused continued harassing her for not having a male child. Later, Revathi gave birth to twins through IVF. Accused Nos.3 and 4 allegedly pressurized her

to give one child to them. Due to continuous harassment by all four accused, Revathi committed suicide by hanging.

3. Heard Sri P. Srihari Nath, learned counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioner as well as Sri D. Arun Kumar, learned Additional Public Prosecutor appearing on behalf of the respondent - State.

4. Learned counsel for the petitioner submitted that no specific or direct role was attributed to him in the complaint and that the allegations were vague and false and that he resided separately at Siddipet and had no connection with the day-to-day affairs of accused Nos.1 and 2. He further submitted that accused No.3, who stood on the same footing, had already been granted anticipatory bail, and therefore the petitioner was also entitled to the same relief. He contended that the petitioner was a heart patient, had already adopted a son, and had no reason to demand a child from the deceased. Therefore, he prayed the Court to grant pre-arrest 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 due to the harassment by the petitioner and other accused, the deceased committed suicide, and therefore custodial interrogation of the petitioner was necessary. Hence, he prayed that the Court dismiss the criminal petition.

6. In light of the submissions made by both learned counsel and upon perusal of the material available on record, it appears that the petitioner is the husband of accused No.3, who is the sister-in-law of the deceased. The only allegation against the petitioner and accused No.3 is that they insisted on adopting one of the twins. However, the petitioner contended that he had already adopted a child and had no intention of adopting another, making the allegation far from the truth. Further, as seen from the record, accused No.3 was granted anticipatory bail by the trial Court, and the petitioner stands on the same footing. Considering the facts and circumstances of the case, this Court deems it fit to grant pre-arrest bail to the petitioner, subject to the following conditions:

- i. The petitioner shall surrender before the Station House Officer, Chinnakodur Police Station, Siddipet District, within two weeks from today, and on such surrender, the said Station House Officer shall release the petitioner on bail on his executing a personal bond for Rs.25,000/- (Rupees Twenty five thousand only) with two sureties, for the like sum each.
- ii. The petitioner shall appear before the concerned SHO at 11:00 a.m., on every Wednesday 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 other conditions stipulated in Section 482(2) of BNSS and co-operate with the Investigating Officer in investigating the case.

7. Accordingly, the Criminal Petition is allowed.

Miscellaneous petitions, if any, pending shall stand closed.

K. SUJANA, J

Date: 17.09.2025
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