

THE HONOURABLE SMT. JUSTICE K. SUJANA

CRIMINAL PETITION No.13754 of 2025

ORDER:

Seeking the Court to enlarge the petitioner-accused in Crime No.1071 of 2025 of Meerpet Police Station, Rangareddy District, on bail, the present petition is filed.

2 . The brief facts of the case are that, on 18.08.2025, the *de-facto* complainant, who is the mother of the victim, lodged a report before the Police stating that about a week prior, her daughter had informed her that she was in love with the petitioner, which led to the complainant scolding her. Subsequently, on 17.08.2025, when the complainant went out and returned home, she found that the victim had left the house without informing her and had not returned. Despite making inquiries with neighbours and relatives, the victim could not be traced, and her mobile phone was found to be switched off, as such requested the police for necessary action. Based on the said complaint, a case was registered as Crime No.1071 of 2025 for offences punishable under Sections 87, 65(1), 127(4) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) and Section 5(l) read with 6 of POCSO Act.

3. Heard Sri P. Manoj, learned counsel appearing for 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 the petitioner is innocent of the allegations made against him and that the petitioner and the victim were in a consensual relationship, being in love with each other and that the victim had voluntarily accompanied the petitioner and that the petitioner was unaware of the age of the victim at the relevant time. He further submitted that the petitioner was arrested on 05.09.2025 and has remained in judicial custody since then and a substantial portion of the investigation has already been completed, including the recording of the statement of the victim under Section 183 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNSS). Therefore, 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, contending that the allegations against the petitioner are severe in nature and that the investigation is still ongoing. Therefore, prayed the Court to dismiss the criminal petition.

6. In light of the submissions made by both the learned counsel and upon a perusal of the material available on record, it is evident that the petitioner has been in judicial custody since 05.09.2025. As reflected in the remand case diary, prosecution witnesses LWs.1 to 13 have already been examined, including the investigating officer, and proceedings under Section 183 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNSS) have been completed. Considering the overall facts and circumstances of the case, including the nature of the allegations, the stage of investigation, the duration of incarceration, this Court finds it appropriate to grant bail to the petitioner, subject to the following conditions:

- i. The petitioner shall execute a personal bond for a sum of Rs.10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand only) each, with two sureties for a like sum each to the satisfaction of the learned VI Additional Metropolitan Magistrate at L.B. Nagar.
- 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: 31.10.2025
SS

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