

THE HONOURABLE SMT JUSTICE K. SUJANA

CRIMINAL PETITION No.14302 of 2025

ORDER:

This Criminal Petition is filed before this Court for grant of pre-arrest bail to the petitioner, who is arrayed as accused No.6 in Crime No.982 of 2025 of Medipally Police Station, Rachakonda Commissionerate.

2. The brief facts of the case are that the Sub-Inspector of Police, Medipally PS, lodged a complaint on 01.08.2025 alleging that the petitioner and others were involved in a large-scale crypto and money circulation fraud through an app named Next Bet Coin. Based on this, a case was registered in Crime No.982 of 2025 for offences under Sections 318(4), 316(2) r/w 3(5) BNS, Sections 5 & 6 of the Prize Chits and Money Circulation Schemes (Banning) Act, and Section 5 of the Telangana Protection of Depositors of Financial Establishments Act, 1999.

3. Heard Sri M. Srinivas Reddy, learned counsel for petitioner, and Sri D. Arun Kumar, learned Additional Public Prosecutor appearing on behalf of the respondent - State.

4. Learned counsel for the petitioner submitted that accused No.1 operated an online platform “Nextbet” and that certain funds received by the petitioner’s travel business were linked to it and that the petitioner was the proprietor of a genuine, long-standing travel agency functioning since 2011, catering to hundreds of customers every year, and the amounts in question were only payments for lawful tour packages, duly invoiced and accounted for. He further submitted that the petitioner never engaged in deposit-taking, prize chits, or money circulation activities, that no victim had complained against him, and that all transactions were supported by invoices, GST returns, and travel documents. He averred that there is no progress in the investigation from the period of dismissal of earlier bail petition to as on date. Therefore, while advocating that petitioner is willing to cooperate with the investigating Officer, 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 the allegations leveled against the petitioner are serious in nature. He further submitted that the investigation is not yet completed, as such, at this stage, the question of

granting bail to the petitioner would not arise. Therefore, he prayed the Court to dismiss the criminal petition.

6. Having regard to rival submissions made and on going through the material placed on record, it is noted that there is no progress in the investigation to show that any of the victims are examined. Therefore, this Court deems it fit to grant pre-arrest bail to petitioner, subject to compliance of the following conditions:

- i. The petitioner shall surrender before the Station House Officer, Medipally Police Station, Rachakonda Commissionerate, within two weeks from today, and on such surrender, the said Station House Officer shall release petitioner on bail, on him 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 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 petitioner shall appear before the concerned Investigating Officer on every Wednesday 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.

K. SUJANA, J

Date: 18.11.2025
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