CGHC010356772026 2026:CGHC:45040

NAFR

HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH AT BILASPUR

MCRC No. 8656 of 2026

1 - Sandeep Kumar Miri S/o Jagatram Miri Aged About 32 Years R/o Village Baloda, P.S. Baloda, Distt. Janjgir Champa, Chhattisgarh.

--- **Petitioner(s)**

versus

1 - State Of Chhattisgarh Through The Station House Officer, P.S. Akaltara, Distt. Janjgir Champa, Chhattisgarh.

--- **Respondent(s)**

For Applicant	:	Shri Sachin Nidhi and Shri Vikas Upadhyay, Advocates.
For Non-applicant/State	:	Shri Keshav Gupta, G.A.

HON'BLE SHRI JUSTICE RAKESH MOHAN PANDEY

Order on Board

26/10/2026

1. This is the first bail application filed under Section 483 of the Bhartiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 for grant of regular bail to the applicant who has been arrested in connection with Crime No.288/2026 registered at Police Station Akaltara, District Janjgir-Champa (C.G.), for the offence punishable under Sections 66(c) and

66(d) of I.T. Act and Sections 316(5), 318(4), 336 (3), 338, 339, 340(2) & 238(c) of BNS.

2. As per the case of the prosecution, the present applicant, who was working as a Postal Assistant, fraudulently withdrew a sum of Rs.19,21,000/- from the accounts of four different account holders and subsequently invested the said amount in the share market. It is further the case of the prosecution that the superior authorities of the department conducted an inquiry into the matter and thereafter lodged an FIR on 22.5.2026.

3. Learned counsel for the applicant would submit that the present applicant was not competent to issue ATM cards or withdraw any amount from the accounts of the account holders. He would further submit that the charge-sheet has already been filed, the applicant is a government servant working in the Postal Department and has been languishing in jail since 22.5.2026, he has no criminal antecedents, and the trial may take some time to conclude. He would also argue that the main allegation is against the Sub-Postmaster, Vinod K., but no action has been taken against him. He would, therefore, pray for grant of regular bail to the applicant.

4. On the other hand, learned counsel for the State would oppose the bail application and submit that the present applicant, who was an employee of the Postal Department, committed a breach of trust by withdrawing a sum of Rs.19,21,000/- from the accounts of four account holders and investing the said amount in the share market. He would further contend that, during the course of the inquiry, the superior authorities of the Postal Department found the allegations to be proved. He would submit that, in view of the serious allegations

against the present applicant, the bail application deserves to be rejected.

5. I have heard learned counsel appearing for the parties and perused the case diary.

6. Having considered the facts and circumstances of the case, this Court observes that postal officials are entrusted with the responsibility of safeguarding public money, and any misuse of authority or serious procedural lapses leading to fraud cannot be viewed lightly. It is a well-settled principle of law that economic offences constitute a distinct category, as they have the potential to adversely affect the financial interests of society. In the present case, the applicant, who was posted as a Postal Assistant in the post office, allegedly withdrew a sum of Rs.19,21,000/- from the accounts of four account holders and invested the said amount in the share market. It is also not in dispute that the applicant was competent to operate the savings accounts of the complainant and other aggrieved persons. The prosecution has collected sufficient material which *prima facie* indicates the involvement of the present applicant in the commission of the alleged offence. Therefore, I am not inclined to allow the bail application filed by the present applicant.

7. Accordingly, the first bail application filed by the applicant is hereby **rejected**.

Sd/-

(Rakesh Mohan Pandey)

JUDGE

Nimmi