CGHC010396882026 2026:CGHC:46320

NAFR

HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH AT BILASPUR

MCRC No. 9566 of 2026

Pravin Bhatriya S/o Paggu Lal Aged About 27 Years R/o Village Patharra, P.S. Bhilai-03, Distt. Durg, Chhattisgarh.

--- **Applicant**

Versus

State Of Chhattisgarh Through S.H.O. P.S. Balod, Distt. Balod, Chhattisgarh.

--- **Respondent(s)**

For Applicant	:	Mr. Alok Bakshi, Advocate
For Non-Applicant	:	Ms. Laxmin Kashyap, P.L.

Hon'ble Shri Justice Rakesh Mohan Pandey

Order on Board

02.11.2026

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. 104/2026 registered at Police Station : Balod, District : Balod (C.G.) for the offence punishable under Sections 80 (1), 80 (2) and 3 (5) of B.N.S.

2. The prosecution case, in brief, is that the marriage between the applicant and the deceased, Meenakshi Bhadariya, was solemnized on 08.05.2025. Subsequently, an understanding was also arrived at

between the applicant and the deceased, whereby the applicant assured her that he would maintain her properly. On 24.02.2026, while the applicant was at his office, the deceased committed suicide by hanging. Upon returning home, the applicant lodged a merg intimation on the same date. However, the FIR was registered on 07.07.2026, following which the statements of the witnesses were recorded and the FIR was registered against the present applicant and his parents.

3. Learned counsel for the applicant would submit that there was a considerable delay in the registration of the FIR and that no inquiry was conducted by the police during the intervening period. The applicant has been in custody since 07.07.2026. The charge-sheet has already been filed, and there is no specific allegation that the applicant harassed the deceased soon before her death. Therefore, the ingredients of the offence punishable under Section 80(2) of the BNSS are not made out. He would, accordingly, pray for allowing the present application.

4. Per contra, learned counsel appearing for the State would oppose the application. She would submit that a merg intimation was registered on 24.02.2026 and that, after completion of the merg inquiry, the police registered the FIR on 07.07.2026. She would further submit that the statement of the deceased's father was recorded on the said date, wherein he made serious allegations against the applicant regarding demand for dowry and harassment. It is also contended that the deceased's brother and sister have categorically made allegations against the present applicant. Therefore, the application deserves to be dismissed.

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

diary.

6. Having considered the facts and circumstances of the case, particularly the fact that the deceased, who was married on 08.05.2025, committed suicide on 24.02.2026, this Court is of the view that the mere fact that the FIR was registered after a lapse of approximately five months from the date of suicide cannot be a ground for granting bail, particularly when serious allegations of demand for dowry and harassment have been levelled against the applicant by the deceased's brother and sister in their statements recorded under Section 180 of the BNSS. Having regard to the allegations levelled against the applicant and the fact that the deceased died an unnatural death within a period of nine months from the date of her marriage, I am not inclined to grant bail to the applicant.

7. Accordingly, the bail application is rejected.

8. Considering the fact that the applicant has been in custody since 07.07.2026, the learned Trial Court is directed to expedite the trial and conclude the same as expeditiously as possible.

Sd/-

(**Rakesh Mohan Pandey**)
JUDGE

Saurabh