APHC010576392026

IN THE HIGH COURT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
AT AMARAVATI **[3521]**
(Special Original Jurisdiction)

WEDNESDAY, THE 4th DAY OF NOVEMBER 2026

PRESENT

THE HONOURABLE DR JUSTICE Y. LAKSHMANA RAO

CRIMINAL PETITION NO: 9668/2026

Between:

1. EDAGATTU SRINIVASULU, S/O E.RAMAIAH, AGED 40 YEARSLAKSHMI PALLI VILLAGE, NANDALAMPETA PANCHAYATHI, MYDUKURU MANDAL, YSR KADAPA DISTRICT.516172
2. EDAGATTUM NAGENDRA, S/O CHINNA PITCHAIAH, AGED 38 YEARS LAKSHMI PALLI VILLAGE, NANDALAMPETA, MYDUKURU MANDAL,YSR KADAPA DISTRICT, 516172.
3. EDAGATTU SUBBARAYUDU, S/O AGGI RAMAIAH, AGED 36 YEARS,LAKSHMI PALLI VILLAGE, NANDALAMPETA MYDUKURU MANDAL,YSR KADAPA DISTRICT, 516172.

...PETITIONER/ACCUSED(S)

AND

THE STATE OF ANDHRA PRADESH, Rep. by Public Prosecutor,High Court of Andhra Pradesh At Amaravathi, Guntur District,522239.

...RESPONDENT/COMPLAINANT

Counsel for the Petitioner/accused(S):

MANTAPAMPALLE RAMPRASAD

Counsel for the Respondent/complainant:

PUBLIC PROSECUTOR

The Court made the following:

ORDER:

The Criminal Petition has been filed under Sections 480 and 483 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (for brevity, 'the BNSS'), seeking to enlarge the petitioners/accused Nos.1 to 3 on bail in Crime No.110 of 2026 of Khajipeta U/G Police Station, Kadapa District, registered against the Petitioners/Accused Nos.1 to 3 for the offence punishable under Sections 303(2), 61(2), 49 read with 34 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (for brevity 'the BNS'), Section 20(1)(d)(i)(a) read with 20(1)(c), ii, iii, iv, x, 36(a) read with 32A, 29(4)(a)(i) of the Andhra Pradesh Forest Act, 1967

2. Mr.M.Ramprasad, learned counsel for the petitioners, submits that the petitioners are innocent of the alleged offences and have been falsely implicated in the present case. They have not committed any offence. They are sole earning members of the family. They are law-abiding citizens. They have got fixed abode. The petitioners undertake to abide by any conditions that may be imposed by this Court while granting bail. Hence, learned counsel urges that the petition may be allowed.

3. *Per contra*, Mr. A. Sai Rohith, learned Assistant Public Prosecutor, vehemently opposes the grant of bail to the petitioners, submitting that the investigation is still underway and several material witnesses remain to be examined. It is contended that if the petitioners are released on bail at this stage, there is a likelihood of their absconding, thereby hampering the ongoing

investigation and evading the process of law. In view of the foregoing submissions, learned Assistant Public Prosecutor urges that the petition be dismissed.

4. Heard the learned counsel for the petitioners and the learned Assistant Public Prosecutor. Perused the record.

5. As seen from the record, the petitioners are arraigned as Accused Nos.1 to 3. The petitioners were arrested on 23.09.2026 and have been in judicial custody for the past 43 days. The allegation against the petitioners is that they were involved in cutting and transporting 37 red sanders logs, weighing about 594 kgs and valued at Rs.11,88,000/-. So far, only four witnesses have been examined, and some more material witnesses are yet to be examined. The investigation is at a progressive stage, and the material part of the investigation is yet to be completed. There are two adverse antecedents reported against petitioner/Accused No.1, one adverse antecedent against petitioner/Accused No.2, and two adverse antecedents against petitioner/Accused No.3.

6. Having regard to the facts and circumstances of the case, the nature and gravity of the allegations levelled against the petitioners/Accused Nos.1 to 3, and in view of the pendency of the investigation, this Court is not inclined to enlarge the petitioners on bail at this stage. Hence, this Court finds no merit in the Criminal Petition, and the same is liable to be dismissed.

7. In the result, the Criminal Petition is dismissed.

As a sequel, Miscellaneous petitions, if any pending, shall stand closed.

DR. Y. LAKSHMANA RAO, J

Date: 04.11.2026
RSI

101

THE HONOURABLE DR JUSTICE Y. LAKSHMANA RAO

CRIMINAL PETITION NO: 9668 of 2026

Date: 04.11.2026
RSI