HC-KAR

NC: 2026:KHC:61257
CRL.P No. 14278 of 2026

CNR: KAHC010641272026

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU

DATED THIS THE 4TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2026

BEFORE

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE S VISHWAJITH SHETTY

CRIMINAL PETITION NO. 14278 OF 2026

BETWEEN:

1. ARR EXPORTERS PRIVATE LIMITED,
A COMPANY INCORPORATED UNDER
THE COMPANIES ACT,
REPRESENTED BY ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR,
ARRAM VENUGOPAL REDDY,
S/O ARRAM VENUGOPAL REDDY,
AGED ABOUT 49 YEARS,
R/AT 35-4-229, BANK COLONY,
NEAR S R SCHOOL, BHEEMARAM,
HANAMKONDA, TELANGANA - 506 001.

2. SUDEEP KUMAR SINGH,
S/O SURENDRA PRASAD,
AGED ABOUT 40 YEARS,
R/AT NEAR D.P.S. SCHOOL,
SURWAR BHAWAN, SHWET SHREE CLINIC,
SARAIDHELLA, DHANBAD,
JHARKHAND - 828 106.

...PETITIONERS

(BY SRI. VIVEK S. REDDY, SR. COUNSEL FOR
SRI. ISRAIL D. MULTANI, ADVOCATE)

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Location: HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA

AND:

1. STATE OF KARNATAKA
BY JAYANAGAR POLICE STATION,

BENGALURU CITY,
REPRESENTED BY
THE STATE PUBLIC PROSECUTOR,
HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA,
BENGALURU - 560 001.

2. M/S. SHREE VAISHNAVI AGENCY
REPRESENTED BY SURAJ D.V

…RESPONDENTS

(BY SRI. CHANNAPPA ERAPPA, HCGP FOR R1;
SRI. PRAKASH SHETTY, ADVOCATE FOR R2)

THIS CRL.P IS FILED U/S 438 OF CR.PC (FILED U/S 482 BNSS) PRAYING TO RELEASE T HE PETITIONERS IN THE EVENT OF THEIR ARREST IN CRIME NO.224/2026 FOR THE OFFENCE P/U/S 361, 318(4), 351(2) OF THE BNS, 2023 THE ABOVE CASE IS PENDING BEFORE LEARNED II ACJM, BANGALORE CITY.

THIS PETITION, COMING ON FOR ORDERS, THIS DAY, ORDER WAS MADE THEREIN AS UNDER:

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE S VISHWAJITH SHETTY

ORAL ORDER

Accused Nos.1 and 3 in crime No.224/2026 registered by Jayanagar Police Station, Bengaluru for offences punishable under Sections 61, 318(4) and 351(2) of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 ('the BNS' for short) are before this Court in this

petition filed under Section 482 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023 seeking anticipatory bail.

2. Heard the learned counsel for the parties.

3. FIR in crime No.224/2026 was registered by Jayanagar Police Station, Bengaluru for the aforesaid offences against the petitioners herein based on the first information dated 23.08.2026 received from respondent No.2/defacto complainant. Apprehending arrest in the case, petitioners had approached the jurisdictional Sessions Court in Crl. Misc. No.8755/2026, which was rejected on 07.09.2026. Therefore, they are before this Court.

4. Material made available to this Court during the course of arguments by the learned advocates for the parties appearing in this petition would go to show that respondent No.2/defacto complainant had approached petitioner No.1 for the purpose of importing soya bean seeds and had paid an advance amount of Rs.2,74,00,000/- for the said purpose under contract. It appears that in turn accused No.1 namely ARR Exporters Private Limited had approached SVF Soya

Private Limited for the purpose of supplying soya beans seeds to the defacto complainant. It is the case of the petitioners that thereafter SVF Soya Private Limited has supplied the Soya beans seeds to the defacto complainant for which direct payments were made by the defacto complainant to the supplier of goods, namely SVF Soya Private Limited. For certain reasons, the goods, which were supplied by SVF Soya Private Limited was not lifted by the defacto complainant and therefore, it appears that dispute has arisen between the SVF Soya Private Limited and the defacto complainant namely Shree Vaishnavi Agencies. A legal notice dated 13.08.2026 was therefore issued on behalf of SVF Soya Private Limited to Shree Vaishnavi Agencies and also petitioner No.1 herein, stating that towards the amount due to be paid by the defacto complainant namely Shree Vaishnavi Agencies, the aforesaid amount which is available with the first petitioner namely ARR Exporters Private Limited to be registered.

5. According to the learned Senior counsel for the petitioner, SVF Soya Private Limited was due to pay certain

money to the first petitioner herein and the said money has been now adjusted between the two parties.

6. Be that as it may, the fact remains that subsequent to issuance of the legal notice, SVF Soya Private Limited has already approached the jurisdictional Commercial Court and has filed a mediation application for which the first petitioner herein as well as the defacto complainant are parties. From the aforesaid, it is apparent that dispute between the parties is primarily civil in nature. Petitioners have undertaken to co-operate with the police for the purpose of investigation. Considering the aforesaid aspects of the matter and also the fact that the alleged offences are triable by the Court of Magistrate and the maximum punishment for the same is imprisonment for a period of seven years, the following:

ORDER

(i) The criminal petition is ***allowed***. The respondent - Police or any other police in the State of Karnataka are directed to release the petitioner in the event of his arrest in Crime No.224/2026 registered by Jayanagar police station for the

offences punishable under Sections 61, 318(4) and 351(2) of the BNS, subject to the following conditions:

1. The Petitioners shall appear before the Investigating Officer within 15 days from the date of receipt of the copy of this order and shall execute a personal bond for a sum of Rs.1,00,000/- each with two sureties for the likesum to the satisfaction of the investigating officer.

2. Petitioners shall regularly appear before the Trial Court without fail unless exempted by the Trial Court for valid reasons.

3. Petitioners shall not tamper with the prosecution witnesses and they shall co-operate with the police for investigation and appear before them whenever called upon.

4. The petitioners shall not involve in similar offences in future.

Sd/-
(S VISHWAJITH SHETTY)
JUDGE

JY
List No.: 1 Sl No.: 62