HC-KAR
NC: 2026:KHC:60080
CRL.P No. 14923 of 2026
CNR: KAHC010669232026

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU

DATED THIS THE 29TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2026

BEFORE

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE S VISHWAJITH SHETTY

CRIMINAL PETITION NO. 14923 OF 2026

(439(Cr.PC) / 483(BNSS))

BETWEEN:

B. PRASHANTH
S/O T. BABU,
AGED ABOUT 27 YEARS,
R/AT NO. 3-252
MUNASWAMY PURAM
KUPPAM POST,
CHITTOOR DISTRICT
ANDHRA PRADESH - 517 425.

...PETITIONER

(BY SRI. NATARAJ D.,ADVOCATE)

Digitally signed by SHILPABAI S
Location: HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA

AND:

1. STATE OF KARNATAKA
   BY MAHADEVAPURA POLICE STATION,
   REP BY STATE PUBLIC PROSECUTOR
   OFF/AT HIGH COURT COMPLEX
   BENGALURU - 560 001.

2. SRI JAYARAM T.,
   S/O GOVINDAPPA,
   AGED ABOUT 40 YEARS,
   R/AT NO.15,
   ANKAPPA REDDY LAYOUT
   NEAR KAMAKSHMMA TEMPLE,

KAGGADASAPURA
MAHADEVAPURA
BANGALORE CITY
KARNATAKA - 560 048.

…RESPONDENTS

(BY SRI.CHANNAPPA ERAPPA, HCGP FOR R1)

THIS CRL.P IS FILED U/S 439 CR.PC (FILED U/S 483 BNSS) PRAYING TO ENLARGE THE PETITIONER ON REGULAR BAIL IN CRIME NO.327/2026 (SPLC 2065/2026) OF MAHADEVAPURA POLICE STATION, BENGALURU, REGISTERED FOR OFFENCES UNDER SECTION PROHIBITION OF CHILD MARRIAGE ACT 2006 (SEC-9), PROTECTION OF CHILDREN FROM SEXUAL OFFENCES ACT 2012 (SEC-6), THE BHARATIYA NYAYA SANHITA (BNS), 2023 (SEC-127(3), 64(2)(M),87).

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

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE S VISHWAJITH SHETTY

ORAL ORDER

1. Accused No.1 in Spl.C.No.2065/2026 pending before the Court of Additional City Civil and Sessions Judge, Bengaluru arising out of Crime No.327/2026 registered by the Mahadevapura Police Station, Bengaluru City, for the offences

punishable under Section 9 of the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006, Section 6 of Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 and Sections 127(3), 64(2)(m), (87) of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 is before this Court under Section 483 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, seeking regular bail.

2. Heard the learned counsel for the parties.

3. F.I.R. in Crime No.327/2026 was registered by Mahadevapura Police Station, Bengaluru City, against the petitioner herein for the aforesaid offences on the basis of first information dated 05.06.2026 received from respondent No.2, who is father of the victim girl, aged about 17 years. During the course of investigation of the case, the petitioner herein, who is arrayed as accused No.1 in the FIR was arrested on 09.06.2026 and remanded to judicial custody.

4. The bail application filed by the petitioner in Crl.Misc.No.7033/2026 before the jurisdictional Sessions Court was rejected on 19.09.2026. Therefore, he is before this Court.

5. Material on record would go to show that the petitioner is the relative of victim girl and they were acquainted with each other. Since the victim girl was missing from her house from 05.06.2026, her father had made efforts to trace her. As he could not trace the victim girl, he subsequently approached the police alleging that he had suspected the hands of the petitioner. It is under these circumstances, FIR was registered against the petitioner.

6. During the course of the investigation petitioner and victim girl were traced together on 09.06.2026 and on the said date petitioner was arrested and remanded to judicial custody. Statement of the victim girl under Section 183 of BNSS 2023 was recorded in the present case on 22.06.2026 by the Court of jurisdictional Magistrate. In the said statement, victim girl has not made any allegation against the petitioner about he committing any kind of sexual assault on her which would attract the alleged offence punishable under the POCSO Act. Investigation of the case is now completed and charge sheet is already filed.

7. Under the circumstances, I am of the opinion that prayer made by the petitioner's for grant of regular bail needs to be answered affirmatively.

8. Accordingly, the following:

ORDER

The Criminal Petition is ***allowed***.

The petitioner is directed to be enlarged on bail in Crime No.327/2026 registered by the Mahadevapura Police Station, Bengaluru City, for the offences punishable under Section 9 of the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006, Section 6 of Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 and Sections 127(3), 64(2)(m), (87) of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, subject to the following conditions:

a) Petitioner shall execute personal bond for a sum of Rs.1,00,000/- (Rupees One Lakh only) with two sureties for the likesum, to the satisfaction of the jurisdictional Court;

b) The petitioner shall appear regularly on all the dates of hearing before the Trial Court unless the

Trial Court exempts his appearance for valid reasons;

c) The petitioner shall not directly or indirectly threaten or tamper with the prosecution witnesses;

d) The petitioner shall not involve in similar offences in future;

Sd/-
(S VISHWAJITH SHETTY)
JUDGE

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List No.: 1 Sl No.: 71