HC-KAR

NC: 2026:KHC:61379
CRL.P No. 15454 of 2026

CNR: KAHC010696412026

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. 15454 OF 2026

BETWEEN:

SRI DEVARAJ K.D
S/O LATE DODDAIAH
AGED ABOUT 27 YEARS
PRESENTLY RESIDING AT
C/O VIJAYALAKSHMI VEG HOTEL
NEAR AYYAPPA SWAMY TEMPLE
VIJAYA BANK LAYOUT, BILEKAHALLI
BENGALURU - 560 076
PERMANENT RESIDENT OF KITHAGALALE
VILLAGE, K. HOSAKOTE HOBLI
ALURU TALUK, HASSAN DISTRICT.
(PRESENTLY IN JUDICIAL CUSTODY
AT CENTRAL PRISON, BENGALURU)

...PETITIONER

(BY SRI PRAJWAL SWAMY M, ADV.)

AND:

Digitally signed by NANDINI D
Location: HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA

1. STATE OF KARNATAKA,
   BY MICO LAYOUT POLICE STATION
   BENGALURU CITY, REPRESENTED BY
   THE STATE PUBLIC PROSECUTOR
   HIGH COURT BUILDING
   BENGALURU - 560 001.

2. XXX

...RESPONDENTS

(BY SRI CHANNAPPA ERAPPA, HCGP FOR R-1;
SRI ASHWIN JOYSTON KUTINHA, ADV., FOR R-2)

THIS CRL.P IS FILED U/S 439 CR.PC (FILED U/S 483 BNSS) PRAYING TO ALLOW THE PRESENT CRIMINAL PETITION AND

CNR: KAHC010696412026

ENLARGE THE PETITIONER ON REGULAR BAIL IN CRIME NO. 272/2026 REGISTERED BY THE MICO LAYOUT POLICE STATION, BENGALURU CITY, FOR OFFENCES PUNISHABLE UNDER SECTIONS 8, 9(m), AND 10 OF THE POCSO ACT, 2012, CURRENTLY PENDING BEFORE THE ADDL CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE, FSTC-1, BENGALURU.

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 in Crime No.272/2026 registered by Mico Layout Police Station, Bengaluru City, for the offences punishable under Sections 8, 9(m), 10 of POCSO Act, 2012, is before this Court in this petition filed under Section 483 of BNSS, 2023, seeking regular bail.

2. Heard the learned Counsel for the parties.

3. FIR in Crime No.272/2026 was registered by Mico Layout Police Station, Bengaluru City, for the aforesaid offences against the petitioner herein based on the first information dated 02.09.2026 received from the father of the victim aged six years. In the said case, petitioner was arrested on

03.09.2026 and remanded to judicial custody. His bail application filed before the jurisdictional Sessions Court in Crl. Misc. No.9255/2026 was rejected on 30.09.2026. Therefore, he is before this Court.

4. In the first information dated 02.09.2026 submitted by the father of the victim girl, it is stated that on 02.09.2026, petitioner had touched the private parts of the victim girl inappropriately. This was informed by the victim girl to him and it is under these circumstances, he had approached the police on 02.09.2026.

5. Petitioner, allegedly, is working as a cook in a restaurant which is situated adjacent to the apartment complex in which the first informant is working as a security guard. FIR has been registered invoking Sections 8, 9(m) & 10 of the POCSO Act. The maximum punishment for the said offences is imprisonment for a period of five years. Petitioner is in custody from 03.09.2026 onwards. Considering the nature of allegations found against the petitioner and also the period of punishment provided for the alleged offences, I am of the

opinion that his prayer for grant of regular bail is required to be answered affirmatively. Accordingly, the following order:

6. The petition is allowed. The petitioner is directed to be enlarged on bail in Crime No.272/2026 registered by Mico Layout Police Station, Bengaluru City, for the offences punishable under Sections 8, 9(m), 10 of POCSO Act, 2012, subject to the following conditions:

a) Petitioner shall execute personal bond for a sum of Rs.1,00,000/- 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;

e) The petitioner shall not leave the jurisdiction of the Trial Court without permission of the said Court until the case registered against him is disposed off.

Sd/-
(S VISHWAJITH SHETTY)
JUDGE

KK