HC-KAR

CNR: KAHC010702042026

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU

DATED THIS THE 28TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2026

BEFORE

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE S VISHWAJITH SHETTY

CRIMINAL PETITION NO. 15588 OF 2026

BETWEEN:

SRI RAMESHA D.T
@ KOTI RAMANNA
S/O THIMMANNA
AGED ABOUT 65 YEARS
AGRICULTURIST
R/AT HIREKANDAVADI VILLAGE
B.DURGA HOBLI
HOLALKERE TALUK
CHITRADURGA DISTRICT - 577 526.

...PETITIONER

(BY SRI SUYOG HERELE E, ADV.)

AND:

THE STATE OF KARNATAKA
THROUGH CHIKKAJAJURU POLICE STATION
REPRESENTED BY ITS STATE PUBLIC
PROSECUTOR, HIGH COURT BUILDING
BANGALORE - 560 001.

...RESPONDENT

(BY SRI CHANNAPPA ERAPPA, HCGP)

Digitally signed by NANDINI D
Location: HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA

THIS CRL.P IS FILED U/S 438 CR.P.C (U/S 482 BNSS) PRAYING TO ALLOW THIS PETITION AND DIRECT THE RESPONDENT POLICE TO RELEASE THE PETITOINER ON ANTICIPATORY BAIL IN THE EVENT OF HIS ARREST ARISING OUT OF CR.NO.45/2024 REGISTERED BY CHIKKAJAJUR P.S., FOR THE OFFENCE P/U/S 420 OF IPC, PENDING BEFORE THE LEARNED PRL. CIVIL JUDGE (JR.DN) AND JMFC COURT, HOLALKERE, CHITRADURGA DISTRICT.

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. Petitioner, who is apprehending arrest in Crime No.45/2024 registered by Chikkajajur Police Station, Chitradurga District, for the offences punishable under Section 420 of IPC, is before this Court in this petition filed under Section 482 of BNSS, 2023, seeking anticipatory bail.

2. Heard the learned Counsel for the parties.

3. FIR in Crime No.45/2024 was registered by Chikkajajur Police Station, Chitradurga District, for the aforesaid offence against the petitioner herein based on the first information dated 06.03.2024 received from Keshavamurthy S/o Govindappa. Apprehending arrest in the said case, petitioner had approached the jurisdictional Sessions Court in Crl. Misc. No.1402/2024, which was rejected on 27.11.2024. Therefore, he is before this Court.

4. Documents made available to this Court by the learned Counsel for the petitioner would go to show that challenging the FIR, petitioner had approached this Court in W.P.No.31545/2024 and in the said writ petition, there was an

interim order of stay of further investigation in Crime No.45/2024 against the petitioner. The said interim order was operating for a period of almost two years, and subsequently, the writ petition was dismissed as withdrawn on 23.09.2026, with liberty to the petitioner to challenge the charge sheet if filed in future.

5. In the first information submitted by the alleged victim, it is stated that the petitioner who had purchased arecanut from him and from other agriculturists, had failed to pay the money thereafter, and when they tried to contact him, he had evaded their call and was missing. It is in this background, the first informant had approached the police alleging that petitioner was due to pay a total amount of Rs.4,40,04,000/- to various agriculturists. According to the first informant, petitioner was due to pay a sum of Rs.15,40,000/- to him.

6. Learned Counsel for the petitioner had submitted that petitioner has no other criminal antecedents and he had suffered loss in his business.

7. Considering the aforesaid aspects of the matter and the nature of allegations found in the first information, I am of the opinion that the prayer made by the petitioner who has undertaken to cooperate with the police for the purpose of investigation, needs to be granted. Accordingly, the following order:

8. The 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.45/2024 registered by Chikkajajur Police Station, Chitradurga District, for the offences punishable under Section 420 of IPC, is before this Court in this petition filed under Section 482 of BNSS, 2023, subject to the following conditions:

> 1. The Petitioner 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/- with two sureties for the likesum to the satisfaction of the investigating officer.

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

3. Petitioner shall not tamper with the prosecution witness and he shall co-operate with the police for investigation and appear before them whenever called upon.

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

Sd/-
(S VISHWAJITH SHETTY)
JUDGE

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