HC-KAR
NC: 2026:KHC:62694
CRL.P No. 15993 of 2026
CNR: KAHC010721202026

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU

DATED THIS THE 12TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2026

BEFORE

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE S VISHWAJITH SHETTY

CRIMINAL PETITION NO. 15993 OF 2026

BETWEEN:

SRI NAGESH
S/O LATE M SIDDAIAH
AGED ABOUT 46 YEARS
VILLAGE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
GANJALAGUNTE CIRCLE AND
IN CHARGE REVENUE INSPECTOR
KASABA HOBLI, MADHUGIRI TALUK
TUMAKURU DISTRICT - 572 132
ALSO R/AT DODDA YALKUR VILLAGE
AND POST, I D HOBLI, MADHUGIRI TALUK
TUMAKURU DISTRICT - 572 132
(NOW IN JUDICIAL CUSTODY)

...PETITIONER

(BY SRI VEERESHA K, ADV.)

AND:

STATE OF KARNATAKA
BY KARNATAKA LOKAYUKTA POLICE
TUMAKURU, REP. BY ITS SPECIAL PUBLIC
PROSECUTOR, HIGH COURT COMPLEX
BENGALURU - 560 001.

...RESPONDENT

(BY SRI K. PRASANNA SHETTY, ADV.)

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Location: HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA

THIS CRL.P IS FILED U/S 439 CR.PC (FILED U/S 483 BNNS) PRAYING TO ENLARGE THE PETITIONER/ACCUSED ON REGULAR BAIL IN CRIME NO.09/2026 REGISTERED BY TUMAKURU LOKAYUKTA POLICE STATION FOR THE ALLEGED OFFENCE P/U/S 7(a) OF THE PREVENTION OF CORRUPTION ACT 1988 (AS AMENDED IN 2018) FOLLOWING THE REJECTION OF HIS EARLIER BAIL PETITION BY ORDER DATED 06.10.2026 PASSED BY THE VII ADDL.DISTRICT AND SESSIONS JUDGE AND SPECIAL JUDGE, TUMAKURU IN CRL.MISC NO.1450/2026.

CNR: KAHC010721202026

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.9/2026/TMK registered by Lokayukta Police, Tumakuru, for the offence punishable under Section 7(a) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, is before this Court in this petition filed under Section 483 of BNSS, 2023, seeking regular bail.

2. Heard the learned Counsel for the petitioner and the learned Counsel for the respondent who has filed statement of objections.

3. FIR in Crime No.9/2026/TMK was registered by Lokayukta Police, Tumakuru, against the petitioner herein based on the first information received from one Renukesh. In the trap that was laid subsequent to the registration of FIR, petitioner allegedly was caught red handed while receiving bribe amount of Rs.30,000/- from the defacto complainant, and thereafter petitioner was arrested and remanded to judicial custody. His bail application filed before the Trial Court in Crl. Misc.

No.1450/2026 was rejected on 06.10.2026. Therefore, petitioner is before this Court.

4. The allegation against the petitioner who is a Revenue Inspector is, that he had demanded bribe of Rs.1,00,000/- from the defacto complainant for changing the revenue entries in respect of land belonging to the defacto complainant. After negotiation, the demand was reduced to Rs.30,000/-. Since the defacto complainant did not intend to pay the bribe amount, he had recorded the conversation with the petitioner in his mobile phone, and thereafter, informed the Lokayukta Police and based on his information, FIR was registered against the petitioner. Subsequently, a trap was laid and in the said trap, petitioner was caught red handed while receiving bribe amount of Rs.30,000/- from the defacto complainant. The said amount has been seized under a panchanama and the hand wash of the petitioner allegedly resulted in positive chemical reaction.

5. Major portion of the investigation in a trap case is completed on the date of trap itself. Petitioner who is a Government servant is in custody for the past 50 days. The

maximum punishment for the alleged offence is imprisonment for a period of seven years. It is not in dispute that petitioner has no other criminal antecedents. Under the circumstances, I am of the opinion that petitioner's prayer for grant of regular 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.9/2026/TMK registered by Lokayukta Police, Tumakuru, for the offence punishable under Section 7(a) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, 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

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