HC-KAR

NC: 2026:KHC:63242
CRL.P No. 16184 of 2026

CNR: KAHC010730652026

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU

DATED THIS THE 13TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2026

BEFORE

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE S VISHWAJITH SHETTY

CRIMINAL PETITION NO.16184 OF 2026

BETWEEN:

1. MR. SUNIL
   S/O NARAYANASWAMY
   AGED ABOUT 31 YEARS
   R/O DODDA HASALA VILLAGE
   KASABA HOBLI, KOLAR TALUK -563 101.

...PETITIONER

(BY SRI. K. GOVINDARAJ, ADV., FOR
SRI. P. NEHRU, ADV.,)

AND:

1. STATE OF KARNATAKA
   BY KOLAR RURAL P.S. KOLAR
   REP. BY SPP, HIGH COURT COMPLEX
   BENGALURU 560 001.

...RESPONDENT

(BY SRI. RAHUL RAI K, HCGP)

Digitally signed by NANDINI D
Location: HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA

THIS CRL.P IS FILED U/S 439 OF CR.P.C. (U/S 483 BNSS) PRAYING TO GRANT THEM BAIL IN CC.NO.1854/2026 ARISING OUT OF CR.NO.256/2026 REGISTERED BY KOLAR RURAL P.S., FOR THE OFFENCES P/U/S 80, 85, 115(2) R/W 3(5) OF BNS, 2023, U/S 3 AND 4 OF D.P ACT, PENDING BEFORE THE 1st ADDL. CIVIL JUDGE (SR.DN) AND CJM, KOLAR & ETC.

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.3 in Crime No.256/2026 registered by Kolar Rural Police Station, Kolar, for the offences punishable under Sections 115(2), 85 and 80 read with Section 3(5) of BNS, 2023 and Sections 3 and 4 of the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961, 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.256/2026 was registered by Kolar Rural Police Station, Kolar, for the aforesaid offences against Manjunatha and two others, based on the first information dated 17.06.2026 received from Bhathyappa B, father of deceased Sahana. In the said case, petitioner was arrested on 19.06.2026 and remanded to judicial custody. After completing investigation, charge sheet is filed against three persons and petitioner is arraigned as accused No.3. The bail application filed by the petitioner before the jurisdictional Sessions Court in

Crl.Misc.No.921/2026 was rejected on 03.10.2026. Therefore, he is before this Court.

4. Perusal of the material on record would go to show that accused No.1, is the husband of deceased Sahana. Accused Nos.2 and 3 are the mother and brother of accused No.1. It appears that marriage of accused No.1 with Sahana was solemnized on 11.02.2022. In the first information as well as in the charge sheet, it is alleged that after marriage, for some time, accused persons had properly taken care of Sahana in her matrimonial home. Subsequently, they started ill-treating her in furtherance of their demand for bringing additional dowry. It is also alleged that panchayats were earlier held after accused persons demanded additional dowry from Sahana. On 17.06.2026, accused Nos.1 and 2 had quarreled with Sahana in furtherance of their demand for bringing additional dowry and had also assaulted her. On the said day, she had committed suicide by hanging herself. It is under these circumstances, FIR was registered against three persons in the present case.

5. As per the first information as well as the charge sheet which is now filed against three persons, allegation of abusing and assaulting the deceased on 17.06.2026, the date on which Sahana committed suicide is found only as against accused Nos.1 and 2. Petitioner was not even present at the spot on the said date. Learned counsel for the petitioner has submitted that petitioner is a married man working as a driver and residing separately with his family members. In view of the aforesaid, I am of the opinion that his prayer for grant of regular bail needs 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.256/2026 registered by Kolar Rural Police Station, Kolar, for the offences punishable under Sections 115(2), 85 and 80 read with Section 3(5) of BNS, 2023 and Sections 3 and 4 of the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961, subject to the following conditions:

a) Petitioner shall execute a 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;

Sd/-
(S VISHWAJITH SHETTY)
JUDGE

DN
List No.: 1 Sl No.: 77