HC-KAR

NC: 2026:KHC:62056
CRL.P No. 16523 of 2026
C/W CRL.P No. 16089 of 2026

CNR: KAHC010742242026

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU

DATED THIS THE 6TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2026

BEFORE

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE S VISHWAJITH SHETTY

CRIMINAL PETITION NO. 16523 OF 2026
C/W
CRIMINAL PETITION NO. 16089 OF 2026

IN CRL.P No. 16523/2026:

BETWEEN:

1. M.N. MANJUNATH
S/O LATE NARAYANASWAMY
AGED 39 YEARS
R/A MASALAHALLI VILLAGE
KONAPALLI POST
AMBAJIDURGA HOBLI
CHINTAMANI TALUK
CHIKKABALLAPURA DISTRICT - 563 125.

2. RAMESH
S/O LATE NARAYANASWAMY
AGED 40 YEARS
R/A MASALAHALLI VILLAGE
KONAPALLI POST
AMBAJIDURGA HOBLI
CHINTAMANI TALUK
CHIKKABALLAPURA DISTRICT - 563 125
PRESENTLY RESIDING AT GROUND FLOOR
'B' TYPE QUATRES, GOVERNMENT
POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE, CHINTAMANI.

...PETITIONERS

(BY SRI PATIL ASHOK BASANAGOUDA, ADV.)

AND:

THE STATE OF KARNATAKA
THROUGH CHINTAMANI RURAL
POLICE STATION, REPRESENTED BY THE
STATE PUBLIC PROSECUTOR
HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA
BANGALORE - 560 001.

...RESPONDENT

Digitally signed by NANDINI D
Location: HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA

(BY SRI CHANNAPPA EERAPPA, HCGP FOR
SRI H.V. PRAVEEN GOWDA, ADV.)

THIS CRL.P IS FILED U/S 438 CR.PC (FILED U/S 482 BNNS) PRAYING TO GRANT ANTICIPATORY BAIL, DIRECTING THE CHINTAMANI RURAL POLICE STATION, THE RESPONDENT POLICE TO RELEASE THE PETITIONERS ON BAIL, IN THE EVENT OF THEIR ARREST IN FIR NO.322/2026 DATED 18-09-2026 REGISTERED UNDER THE OFFENCES OF SEC. 3, 4, 5, 6 OF THE EXPLOSIVE SUBSTANCES ACT, 1908, SEC.9 (B) OF THE EXPLOSIVES ACT, 1884 AND SEC.288 AND 125 OF BHARATIYA NYAYA SANHITA (BNS), 2023, ON THE FILE OF THE CHINTAMANI RURAL POLICE STATION (THE COURT OF THE ADDITIONAL CIVIL JUDGE (JUNIOR DIVISION) AND JMFC, CHINTAMANI, CHIKKABALLAPURA DISTRICT).

IN CRL.P NO. 16089/2026:

BETWEEN:

1. SRI RAMACHANDRAPPA @ RAMACHANDRA
S/O R CHIKKAKEMPANNA
AGED ABOUT 41 YEARS
RESIDENT OF SANTHEKALLAHALLI VILLAGE
KAIWARA HOBLI, CHINTAMANI TALUK
CHICKBALLAPURA DISTRICT - 563 128.

...PETITIONER

(BY SRI SATHISHKUMAR B.K, ADV.)

AND:

1. STATE OF KARNATAKA
SHO OF CHINTHAMANI RURAL
POLICE STATION, REPRESENTED BY
ITS STATE PUBLIC PROSECUTOR
HIGH COURT COMPLEX BUILDING
BENGALURU - 560 040.

...RESPONDENT

(BY SRI CHANNAPPA EERAPPA, HCGP FOR
SRI H.V. PRAVEEN GOWDA, HCGP)

THIS CRL.P IS FILED U/S 438 CR.PC (FILED U/S 482 BNSS) PRAYING TO ENLARGE HIM IN THE EVENT OF HIS ARREST IN CR.NO.322/2026 OF THE CHINTHAMANI RURAL POLICE STATION, FOR THE OFFENCES P/U/S EXPLOSIVE SUBSTANCE ACT, 1908 U/S 3,4,5,6 AND EXPLOSIVES ACT 1884(U/S 9(B)

AND R/W U/S 288, 125 OF BNS 2023 AND THE PETITIONER IS SHOWN AS A-3 WHICH IS PENDING ON THE FILE OF THE HONBLE ADDL. CIVIL JUDGE (JR.DN) AND JMFC COURT, CHINTHAMANI.

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

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE S VISHWAJITH SHETTY

ORAL ORDER

1. Accused Nos.1 to 3 in Crime No.322/2026 registered by Chintamani Rural Police Station, Chickballapura, for the offences punishable under Sections 3, 4, 5 and 6 of the Explosive Substances Act, 1908, Section 9(B) of the Explosives Act, 1884 and Sections 288 and 125 of BNS, 2023, are before this Court in these two petitions filed under Section 482 of BNSS, 2023, seeking anticipatory bail.

2. Heard the learned counsel for the parties.

3. FIR in Crime No.322/2026 was registered by Chintamani Rural Police Station, Chickballapura, for the aforesaid offences against petitioners herein based on the typed first information dated 18.09.2026 received from Subbareddy M K, who is the alleged victim in the present case. Apprehending arrest in the case, petitioners had approached the jurisdictional Sessions

Court and their bail applications were rejected. Therefore, they are before this Court.

4. In the typed first information dated 18.09.2026, it is stated that complainant is a resident of Masilahalli Village, Chintamani Taluk, Chickballapura and his house is adjacent to government land bearing Sy. No. 104 of the same village. It is alleged that accused named in the FIR with an intention to grab the aforesaid land, on 11.09.2026 by using explosives had blasted rocks existing in the said property and as a result, house property of the first informant has been damaged. In respect of the alleged incident that had taken place on 11.09.2026, first information is belatedly submitted on 18.09.2026, which is after a period of one week.

5. In first information, it is alleged that villagers had assured the first informant that panchayath will be held and he shall be properly compensated for the damage that is caused to his property. Undisputedly, no damage has been caused to the life and limb of any person in the present case. According to learned counsel for the petitioners, they were not even present

at the spot on the alleged date of incident and for extraneous reasons, they have been now implicated as accused in the present case. Maximum punishment for the alleged offences is imprisonment for a period of seven years. Considering the nature of allegations found against the petitioners and also submission made by learned counsel for the petitioners that petitioners shall co-operate with the police for the purpose of investigation and also shall abide by the conditions that may be imposed on them by this Court, I am of the opinion that their prayer for grant of anticipatory bail needs to be answered affirmatively. Accordingly, the following order:-

6. The petitions are allowed. The respondent - Police or any other police in the State of Karnataka are directed to release the petitioners in the event of their arrest in Crime No.322/2026 registered by Chintamani Rural Police Station, Chickballapura, for the offences punishable under Sections 3, 4, 5 and 6 of the Explosive Substances Act, 1908, Section 9(B) of the Explosives Act, 1884 and Sections 288 and 125 of BNS, 2023, subject to the following conditions:

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

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

3. Petitioners shall not tamper with the prosecution witnesses and they shall co-operate with the police for investigation and appear before them whenever called upon.

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

Sd/-
(S VISHWAJITH SHETTY)
JUDGE

DN
List No.: 1 Sl No.: 75