HC-KAR

NC: 2026:KHC:64878
CRL.P No. 16447 of 2026

CNR: KAHC010736882026

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU

DATED THIS THE 20TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2026

BEFORE

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE S VISHWAJITH SHETTY

CRIMINAL PETITION NO. 16447 OF 2026

BETWEEN:

1. VENKATESH S.C
S/O LATE CHALAPATHI
AGED ABOUT 25 YEARS
R/O WARD NO.20
SRIRAMA NAGARA
CHINTAMANI TALUK, CHIKKABALLAPURA
DISTRICT - 563 125.

...PETITIONER

(BY SRI SRIKANTH N.V, ADV.)

AND:

1. STATE OF KARNATAKA
BY HASSAN WOMEN POLICE STATION
HASSAN SUB-DIVISION
REPRESENTED BY STATE
PUBLIC PROSECUTOR
HIGH COURT BUILDING
BANGALORE - 560 001.

2. XXX

...RESPONDENTS

(BY SRI RAHUL RAI K, HCGP FOR R-1;
V/O 20.11.2026, SERVIE OF NOTICE TO
R-2 IS HELD SUFFICIENT)

THIS CRL.P IS FILED U/S 439 CR.P.C (U/S 483 BNSS) PRAYING TO ALLOW THE PRESENT PETITION BY GRANTING REGULAR BAIL TO THE PETITIONER/ACCUSED IN SPL.C.NO.58/2026 ARISING OUT OF CR.NO.101/2025 REGISTERED BY HASSAN WOMEN P.S., ON THE BASIS OF THE COMPLAINT MADE BY RESPONDENT NO.2, FOR THE OFFENCES P/U/S 137(2) AND 64 OF BNS, U/S 6 OF POCSO ACT, PENDING BEFORE THE ADDL. DISTRICT AND SESSIONS JUDGE, FTSC-I, AT HASSAN.

Digitally signed by NANDINI D
Location: HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA

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 Special Case No.58/2026 pending before the Court of Additional District and Sessions Judge, FTSC-I, Hassan, arising out of Crime No.101/2025 registered by Hassan Women Police Station, Hassan, for the offences punishable under Sections 137(2) and 64 of BNS, 2023 and Section 6 of the 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 petitioner and learned HCGP for respondent No.1. Respondent No.2, who is served in the matter has remained unrepresented before this Court.

3. FIR in Crime No.101/2025 was registered by Hassan Women Police Station, Hassan, for the offence punishable under Section 137(2) of BNS, 2023, against unknown person based on first information dated 04.12.2025 received from respondent No.2, mother of the victim girl, who was aged 17

years 7 months as on the said date. In the said case, petitioner was arrested on 25.12.2025 and remanded to judicial custody. His bail application filed before the Trial Court in Special Case No.58/2026 was rejected on 16.04.2026. Therefore, he is before this Court.

4. In the first information, it is stated that on 03.12.2025, victim girl was found missing from her house and efforts made to trace her had failed. Therefore, on the next day, her mother had approached the police. During the course of investigation, petitioner and victim girl were traced together. Petitioner was arrested on 25.12.2025 and remanded to judicial custody. Statement of the victim girl under Section 183 of BNSS, 2023, was recorded by the jurisdictional Magistrate on 31.12.2025. Victim girl, who is pursuing her paramedical course, aged 17 years 7 months, has stated that she and the petitioner are in love and they had together gone to Tirupati and had stayed in petitioner's uncle's house. She has not made any serious allegations against the petitioner about he committing any kind of forcible sexual assault on her. Petitioner, aged 25 years, having no other criminal antecedents is in custody for the last

more than 11 months. Investigation of the case is already completed. Considering the age of the parties and also the statement of the victim girl recorded under Section 183 of BNSS, 2023, the following order:-

5. The petition is allowed. The petitioner is directed to be enlarged on bail in Special Case No.58/2026 pending before the Court of Additional District and Sessions Judge, FTSC-I, Hassan, arising out of Crime No.101/2025 registered by Hassan Women Police Station, Hassan, for the offences punishable under Sections 137(2) and 64 of BNS, 2023 and Section 6 of the POCSO Act, 2012, 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.: 69