HC-KAR

NC: 2026:KHC:64424
CRL.P No. 16615 of 2026

CNR: KAHC010738492026

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU

DATED THIS THE 19TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2026

BEFORE

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE S VISHWAJITH SHETTY

CRIMINAL PETITION NO. 16615 OF 2026

BETWEEN:

1. MR.MAHESH.N
@ MAHESH SHETTY @ SHETTY
S/O NARASIMHA RAJU
AGED ABOUT 28 YEARS
RESIDING AT NO.198
MANCHANABELE, MAGADI MAIN ROAD
PUNARVASATHI COLONY, SEEGEHALLIU
KADABAGERE POST
BENGALURU-562130.

...PETITIONER

(BY SRI VIVEKANANDA D, ADV.)

AND:

1. STATE OF KARNATAKA
BY, SHO, BYADARAHALLI PS
BENGALURU DISTRICT, REPRESENTED BY
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 FILED U/S 438 CR.PC (FILED U/S 482 BNSS) PRAYING TO GRANT ANTICIPATORY BAIL DIRECTING TO GRANT ANTICIPATORY BAIL DIRECTING TO ENLARGE THE PETITIONER ON BAIL IN THE EVENT OF HIS ARREST IN CR.NO.442/2026 FOR THE ALLEGED OFFENCES PUNISHABLE UNDER SECTION 20(B) OF NDPS ACT, REGISTERED BY THE RESPONDENT/BYADARAHALLI POLICE STATION, BANGALORE, NOW PENDING ON THE FILE OF ADDL. DISTRICT & SESSIONS JUDGE & SPECIAL COURT FOR NDPS BANGALORE.

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.2 in Crime No.442/2026 registered by Byadarahalli Police Station, Bengaluru, for the offence punishable under Section 20B of the NDPS Act, 1985, 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.442/2026 was registered by Byadarahalli Police Station, Bengaluru, for the aforesaid offence against unknown persons, based on the first information dated 28.08.2026 received from Jai Shankar P H, Police Officer attached to Byadarahalli Police Station, Bengaluru. Apprehending arrest in the case, petitioner had approached the jurisdictional Sessions Court in Crl.Misc.No.2052/2026, which was rejected on 07.10.2026. Therefore, he is before this Court.

4. FIR in the present case was registered based on credible information received by the first informant on 28.08.2026 to the effect that one person, who was within the jurisdiction of

Byadarahalli Police Station was in possession of contraband article which he allegedly was attempting to sell to the public. It is under these circumstances, FIR was registered against unknown persons and in the raid that was conducted subsequently, accused No.1 was arrested and from his possession, contraband article allegedly Ganja weighing 3 kgs 77 grams was recovered and seized under panchanama. It is alleged that accused No.1 had confessed during the course of enquiry that the seized ganja was supplied to him by the petitioner. It is under these circumstances, petitioner is arraigned as accused No.2 in the present case. Undisputedly, petitioner has no other criminal antecedents of similar nature. Except the confession statement of accused No.1, at this stage, there is no material to connect the petitioner to the crime. Petitioner has undertaken to cooperate with the police for the purpose of the investigation. Under the circumstances, the following order:-

5. 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.442/2026

registered by Byadarahalli Police Station, Bengaluru, for the offence punishable under Section 20B of the NDPS Act, 1985, 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 witnesses 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

DN
List No.: 1 Sl No.: 75