HC-KAR

CNR: KAHC010739542026

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU

DATED THIS THE 11TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2026

BEFORE

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE S VISHWAJITH SHETTY

CRIMINAL PETITION NO. 16317 OF 2026

BETWEEN:

1. PRAKASH P
   AGED ABOUT 41 YEARS
   S/O PYARI LAL
   R/AT FLAT NO.305 10/1
   PIPE LINE ROAD, VSPL CRESCENT
   YESHWANTHPURA
   BANGALORE - 560 022.

2. R. SATHISH NAYAR
   AGED ABOUT 32 YEARS
   S/O S RAJENDRA NAYAR
   R/AT NO.55/15, 9TH MAIN ROAD
   GANESH BLOCK, NANDINI LAYOUT
   NEAR RAJAN BAR, BANGLAORE - 560 096.

3. PRAMOD R
   AGED ABOTU 31 YEARS
   S/O V.R. CHIKKARANGAIAH
   R/AT VADERAHALLI D KALKERE POST
   DANDINASHIVARA HOBLI
   TURUVEKERE TALUK
   TUMKUR - 572 221.

4. RAMAMURTHY G
   AGED ABOUT 53 YEARS
   S/O GOVINRAJ
   R/AT NO.1 A BLOCK
   MIK COLONY MALLESHWARAM WEST
   BANGALORE - 560 055.

...PETITIONERS

(BY SRI PUNITH C, ADV., FOR
SRI RAKESH M.T, ADV.)

Digitally signed by NANDINI D
Location: HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA

AND:

THE STATE OF KARNATAKA
BY MAHALAKSHMIPURAM POLICE
STATION, REPRESENTED BY HCGP
HIGH COURT BUILDING
BENGALURU - 560 001.

…RESPONDENT

(BY SRI RAHUL RAI K, HCGP)

THIS CRL.P IS FILED U/S 438 CR.PC (FILED U/S 482 BNNS) PRAYING TO GRANT ANTICIPATORY BAIL TO THE PETITIONERS FOR THE OFFENCES PUNISHABLE UNDER SECTION- 140 R/W 3 (5) OF BHARTIYA NYAYA SANHITA, REGISTERED IN CRIME NO: 231/2026 BY THE RESPONDENT POLICE AND TO DIRECT THE RESPONDENT POLICE TO ENLARGE THE PETITIONERS ON BAIL IN THE EVENT OF THEIR ARREST, BY ALLOWING THIS PETITION, WHICH IS PENDING BEFORE THE LEARNED XXXII ADDL. CHIEF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE, BENGALURU CITY.

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

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE S VISHWAJITH SHETTY

ORAL ORDER

Petitioners, who are apprehending arrest in Crime No.231/2026 registered by Mahalakshmipuram Police Station, Bengaluru City for the offences punishable under Section 140 read with Section 3(5) of BNS 2023, are 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.231/2026 was registered by Mahalakshmipuram Police Station, Bengaluru City for the aforesaid offences against one Koushik and others, based on the first information dated 03.10.2026 received from Sri. Subramanyam, father of alleged victim Dhanush. Apprehending arrest in the said case, the petitioners had filed Crl.Misc.No.10089/2026 before the jurisdictional Sessions Court, which was rejected on 16.10.2026. Therefore, they are before this Court.

4. A reading of the first information as well as the other material available on record would go to show that there is a serious civil dispute between accused No.1 named in the FIR and the first informant in the present case. The allegation against the accused named in the FIR is that, in the background of the civil dispute between them, Dhanush, who is the son of the first informant, was kidnapped by the accused, who thereafter demanded withdrawal of the cases filed by the first informant and others, failing which they threatened of dire consequences to the life and limb of the alleged victim.

5. During the course of investigation, the statement of the alleged victim Dhanush has been recorded in the present case. A reading of the aforesaid statement would reveal that on 03.10.2026, he had gone to meet Sathish for the purpose of finalizing some business deal. Accused No.1-Koushik, who came there, allegedly abused him using filthy language in the background of the civil dispute between them. Persons who were present in the car in which accused No.1 had arrived at the spot of crime allegedly asked accused No.1 and the alleged victim not to shout on the road side. Therefore, accused No.1 and the alleged victim sat inside the car and thereafter, the victim was taken in the said car to an isolated place, where he was allegedly threatened with dire consequences if his family members do not withdraw the cases filed against the family members of accused No.1.

6. The entire allegations in the statement of the victim are found against accused No.1. Accused No.1 is said to have been arrested and remanded to judicial custody. Undisputedly, the petitioners' name is not found in the FIR and it is stated that they do not have any criminal antecedents. They have

undertaken to co-operate with the police for the purpose of investigation.

7. Under these circumstances, I am of the opinion that the prayer made by the petitioners for grant of anticipatory bail needs to be answered affirmatively subject to appropriate conditions. Accordingly, the following :

ORDER

i) The criminal petition is **allowed**.

ii) 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.231/2026 registered by Mahalakshmipuram Police Station, Bengaluru City for the offences punishable under Section 140 read with Section 3(5) of BNS 2023, subject to the following conditions:

a) 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.

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

c) Petitioners shall not tamper with the prosecution witness and he shall co-operate with the police for investigation and appear before them whenever called upon.

d) Petitioners shall not involve in similar offences in future.

Sd/-
(S VISHWAJITH SHETTY)
JUDGE

SHS
List No.: 1 Sl No.: 82