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IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 04-03-2026

CORAM

THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE C.KUMARAPPAN

CRL OP No. 5187 of 2026

1. Ramu
2. Raghu

..Petitioners

Vs

The State rep by the Inspector of Police
District Crime Branch,
Cuddalore.
Crime No.2/2026

..Respondent

PRAYER : Criminal Original Petition filed under Section 483 of Bharatiya
Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, to enlarge the petitioners on bail in Crime
No.2 of 2026 on the file of the Respondent police.

For Petitioners: Mr.K.Raveendran

For Respondent: Mr.S.Vinoth Kumar
Government Advocate (Crl.Side)

ORDER

The petitioners, who were arrested and remanded to judicial custody on
29.01.2026 for the alleged offences under Sections 406 & 420 of Indian Penal
Code, 1860 in Crime No.2 of 2026 on the file of the respondent police, seeks
bail.

2. The case of the prosecution is that the petitioners were cheated 127
persons through Deepawali Chits transactions.



3. The learned counsel appearing for the petitioners submitted that the petitioners have been falsely implicated in this case. He submitted that the petitioners only conducted Deepavali chits and had already given the Deepavali chits and provisions to the defacto complainant and other persons. He further submitted that the petitioners had deposited the amount in another finance matter and they are also affected in the money transaction. It is also submitted that there is no overt act against the petitioners and that there are no previous cases pending against the petitioners. Hence, he prayed to grant bail to the petitioners.

4. The learned Government Advocate (Crl.Side) appearing for the respondent submitted that the allegation against the petitioners is that they cheated 127 victims and caused loss to a total amount of Rs.18,00,000/-, out of which a sum of Rs.5,00,000/- has already been recovered. He further submitted that the number of victims is very high and the offence is serious in nature. Hence, he strongly opposed the grant of bail to the petitioners.

5. I have given anxious consideration to the submissions made by the learned counsel on either side.

6. This Court notes that the only allegation against the petitioners is that they have cheated 127 victims and caused a total loss of Rs.18,00,000/-, out of



which a sum of Rs.5,00,000/- has already been recovered. It is also seen that there are no previous cases pending against the petitioners. While looking at the number of victims, which appears to be 127, this Court is of the view that even if the petitioners are enlarged on bail, stringent conditions have to be imposed so as to avoid any untoward incident in the village. Taking into consideration the period of incarceration undergone by the petitioners since 29.01.2026, this Court is inclined to grant bail to the petitioners, subject to certain conditions.

7. Accordingly, the petitioners are ordered to be released on bail on their executing a bond each for a sum of Rs.25,000/- (Rupees Twenty-Five Thousand only), with two sureties for a like sum each to the satisfaction of the **learned Judicial Magistrate No.II, Panruti** and subject to the following conditions:

[a] the sureties shall affix their photographs and Left Thumb Impression in the Application for Surety ship [Judicial Form No.46 annexed to 'The Criminal Rules of Practice, 2019']. The learned Magistrate shall obtain a copy of any one of the identity proofs to ensure their identity;

[b] the petitioners are directed to stay at Madurai and reported before the **Inspector of Police, D1, Thallakulam Police Station, Madurai** daily at 10.30 a.m. until further orders;

[c] the petitioners shall not abscond either during investigation or trial;



[d] the petitioners shall not tamper with the evidence or witness either during investigation or trial;

[e] on breach of any of the aforementioned conditions, the learned Magistrate/Trial Court is entitled to take appropriate action against the petitioners in accordance with law as if the conditions had been imposed and the petitioners released on bail by the learned Magistrate/Trial Court itself, as laid down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in *P.K.Shaji vs. State of Kerala [(2005)13 SCC 283]*;

[f] if the petitioners thereafter abscond, a fresh FIR may be registered under Section 269 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023.

04-03-2026

NSL

Note:

1. Registry is directed to forthwith upload this order in the Official Website of this Court.
2. All concerned to act on this order being uploaded in Official Website of this Court without insisting on certified hard copies. To be noted, this order when uploaded in the official website of this Court will be watermarked and will also have a QR code.

To:

1. The Judicial Magistrate No. II, Panruti.
2. The Inspector of Police, District Crime Branch, Cuddalore.
3. The Inspector of Police, D1, Thallakulam Police Station, Madurai.
4. Central Jail, Cuddalore.
5. The Public Prosecutor, High Court of Madras.



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C.KUMARAPPAN, J.

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