WEB COPY

Order QR

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 16.11.2026

CORAM

THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE N.RAMESH

CRL.O.P.No.33249 of 2026

CNR: {HCMA012714802026}

Karunakaran.S

Case QR

..Petitioner

Vs

The State of Tamil Nadu Represented by
Inspector of Police,
Delta-II, CCD-1,
Cyber Crime Police Station,
Vepery, Chennai - 600007.
Crime No.83 of 2026

..Respondent

PRAYER: To enlarge the Petitioner on bail in Crime No.83 of 2026, on the file of the Respondent Police and pass such further or other orders as this Court may deem fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of the case and thus render justice.

For Petitioner : Ms.P.Harsha Vardhini

For Respondent : Mr.Durai Gunasekaran,
Government Advocate.

ORDER

The petitioner, who was arrested and remanded to judicial custody on 31.08.2026 for the offences punishable under **Sections 61(2), 318(4), 319(2), 336(3), and 338 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023, and Section 66D of the Information Technology Act, 2000**, in **Crime No.83 of 2026** on the file of the respondent police, seeks bail.

https://www.mhc.tn.gov.in/judis

WEB COPY

Order QR

2. The case of the prosecution is that the accused, through a fake WhatsApp investment group, cheated the 65-year-old *de facto* complainant by inducing her to invest in stocks and IPOs and fraudulently obtained a sum of Rs. 57,04,000/-, thereby causing wrongful loss to her. Hence, the case.

3. The learned counsel appearing for the petitioner submitted that the petitioner has been arrayed as Accused No. 3 (A3) and is an innocent person who has been falsely implicated in this case. He further submitted that without prejudice to his defence and to show his *bona fides*, the petitioner is voluntarily ready and willing to deposit a sum of Rs. 5,00,000/- (Rupees Five Lakhs only) to the credit of Crime No.83 of 2026, and prayed for grant of bail.

4. Per contra, the learned Government Advocate (Crl. Side) appearing for the respondent police opposed the bail petition, stating that it is a case of online investment fraud involving a huge sum of Rs.57,04,000/-, and that the amount was routed through newly opened bank accounts. He further submitted that no amount has been recovered so far from the accused and the investigation is still pending. Hence, he prayed for dismissal of this petition.

5. Heard both sides and perused the materials available on record.

6. Considering the facts and circumstances of the case, the period of incarceration suffered by the petitioner, the role attributed to the petitioner (A3), and taking note of the voluntary undertaking given by the learned counsel for the petitioner to deposit a sum of Rs.5,00,000/- to show his *bona fides*, this Court is inclined to grant bail to the petitioner, subject to certain conditions.

https://www.mhc.tn.gov.in/judis

WEB COPY

Order QR

7. **Accordingly, this Criminal Original Petition is allowed and** the petitioner is ordered to be released on bail on his executing a bond for a sum of **Rs.25,000/- (Rupees Twenty Five Thousand only) with two sureties,** each for a like sum to the satisfaction of the **learned XI Metropolitan Magistrate, Saidapet, Chennai,** and on further conditions that:

[a] the petitioner shall deposit a sum of Rs.5,00,000/- (Rupees Five Lakhs only) to the credit of Crime No.83 of 2026 on the file of the learned Judicial Magistrate concerned before executing the bail bond;

[b] 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 his identity;

[c] the petitioner shall report before the respondent police daily at 10.30 a.m. until further orders;

[d] the petitioner shall not abscond either during investigation or trial;

[e] the petitioner shall not tamper with the evidence or witness either during investigation or trial;

[f] On breach of any of the aforementioned conditions, the learned Magistrate/Trial Court is entitled to pass appropriate orders against the petitioner in accordance with law as if the aforementioned conditions have been imposed and the petitioner released on bail by the learned Magistrate/Trial Court himself as laid down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in

https://www.mhc.tn.gov.in/judis

WEB COPY

Order QR

N.RAMESH, J.

kmm

P.K.Shaji vs. State of Kerala [(2005)13 SCC 283];

[g] If the accused thereafter absconds, a fresh FIR can be registered under Section 269 of B.N.S.

16.11.2026

kmm

To

1. The XI Metropolitan Magistrate, Saidapet, Chennai.

2. The Inspector of Police,
Delta-II, CCD-1,
Cyber Crime Police Station,
Vepery, Chennai - 600007.

3. The Superintendent
Central Prison, Puzhal.

4. The Public Prosecutor, Madras High Court.

CRL.O.P.No.33249 of 2026

https://www.mhc.tn.gov.in/judis