

**IN THE HIGH COURT FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA
AT HYDERABAD**

THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE N.TUKARAMJI

CRIMINAL PETITION Nos.8771 OF 2026

DATE: 25.06.2026

Between :

Mr. Raheem @ Mohammed Abdul Raheem

... Petitioner/Accused No.1

AND

The State of Telangana
through S H O Nizamabad I Town Police Station
Nizamabad District rep by Public Prosecutor High Court
Hyderabad

... Respondents.

ORDER:

This petition is filed under Section 482 of *Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita*, 2023 (for short, "BNSS"), seeking the relief of anticipatory bail.

2. The petitioner is arrayed as Accused No.1 in FIR No.78 of 2026 on the file of Dharur police station, Vikarabad District registered for the offences punishable under Sections 108 r/w 3(5) of BNS.

3. Heard M/s. Syed Yaqoob Sajjad, learned counsel for the petitioner, and Mr. M. Vivekananda Reddy, learned Assistant Public Prosecutor appearing for respondent/State.

4.1. The prosecution case, in brief, is that the de facto complainant is the father of the deceased, who was employed as a Laboratory Technician at the Government Hospital, Vikarabad. It is alleged that disputes had arisen between the deceased and accused No.3, along with her family members. Earlier, Crime No.141 of 2026 had been registered against the deceased on the complaint lodged by accused No.3, alleging offences relating to sexual exploitation on a false promise of marriage, criminal intimidation and circulation of intimate photographs and videos. The complainant further alleged that, on account of threats and harassment allegedly meted out by the accused No.3 and other accused the deceased's sister, who was serving as an A.R. Constable, committed suicide on 29.04.2026. In connection therewith, Crime No.59 of 2026 came to be registered against the said persons.

4.2. According to the prosecution, notwithstanding the pendency of the aforesaid criminal proceedings, the deceased continued to be subjected to persistent harassment and intimidation at the hands of accused No.3 and her associates, including the present petitioner. It is alleged that on 04.06.2026, the deceased was found hanging from a

Eucalyptus tree situated near Dharur. During the course of investigation, a handwritten suicide note allegedly authored by the deceased was recovered from his person, wherein the petitioner and certain other accused persons were specifically named as being responsible for compelling him to take the extreme step of ending his life. On the basis of the complaint lodged by the de facto complainant coupled with the contents of the alleged suicide note, the present crime was registered and the petitioner was arrayed as accused No.1.

5.1. Learned counsel appearing for the petitioner contended that the petitioner has been falsely implicated in the present crime and has absolutely no role in the commission of the alleged suicide. It is submitted that the petitioner is employed on a contractual basis in the Government Hospital, Vikarabad, and became acquainted with the deceased only in the course of his official duties. According to the petitioner, the dispute was essentially between the deceased and accused No.3 and he was neither personally involved nor had any independent interest in the said dispute.

5.2. He further submits that the petitioner had merely informed his superior authorities regarding disturbances allegedly caused by the deceased and accused No.3 within the hospital premises. It is further stated that, subsequent thereto, the deceased allegedly made threatening phone calls to the petitioner, which circumstances were

also reported by him to the hospital authorities. It is contended that WhatsApp communications evidencing these circumstances are available and can be produced during the course of investigation.

5.3. Learned counsel would contend that, except for the allegations contained in the complaint and the purported suicide note, there is no independent material collected during investigation indicating any overt act attributable to the petitioner constituting instigation, intentional aid or active participation in the commission of suicide by the deceased. It is submitted that the petitioner is a law-abiding citizen, has no criminal antecedents, is the sole breadwinner of his family, and has expressed his willingness to cooperate with the investigating agency. Apprehending arrest in connection with the subject crime, which would cause irreparable hardship to him and his dependants, he seeks the discretionary relief of anticipatory bail.

6.1. Learned Assistant Public Prosecutor opposed the petition contending that the allegations against the petitioner are grave in nature and disclose a prima facie case of abetment of suicide punishable under Section 108 of the BNS. It is argued that the present case is not an isolated occurrence but forms part of a continuing chain of events emanating from the disputes between the deceased and accused No.3.

6.2. The learned Assistant Public Prosecutor submits that notwithstanding the registration of the crimes at the instance of the accused No.3, and after the suicidal death of sister of the deceased, the accused No.3 and her associates including the petitioner continued to intimidate and harass the deceased. Specific allegations have been made that the petitioner, in concert with the other accused, called the deceased outside the Government Hospital, Vikarabad, and along with the co-accused assaulted and harassed him on several occasions. The deceased is stated to have informed his family members regarding such incidents from time to time.

6.3. It is submitted that on the date of the occurrence, the deceased committed suicide and the suicide note recovered from his pocket specifically attributed responsibility to the accused persons for his death. According to the prosecution, the materials collected during investigation prima facie indicate sustained harassment and mental torture inflicted upon the deceased and, since the investigation is at a nascent stage, custodial interrogation of the petitioner may be necessary to ensure a fair, complete and effective investigation. Accordingly, it is argued that the petitioner is not entitled to the extraordinary and discretionary relief of anticipatory bail.

7. I have carefully perused the material on record and considered the rival submissions.

8. The petitioner has been implicated in the present crime primarily on the basis of the allegations contained in the complaint and the contents of the suicide note allegedly recovered from the deceased. The material placed before the Court reveals that the present prosecution cannot be viewed in isolation but appears to have emanated from a series of unfortunate events involving disputes between the deceased and accused No.3, culminating in the registration of Crime No.141 of 2026 against the deceased and Crime No.59 of 2026 against accused No.3 and others concerning the suicide of the deceased's sister.

9. At this stage, except for the allegations that the petitioner sided with accused No.3, called the deceased outside the hospital premises and participated in acts of assault, there is no substantial material placed before this Court prima facie demonstrating any specific overt act on the part of the petitioner amounting to instigation, intentional aid or active participation immediately preceding the suicide. It is trite law that, to attract the offence of abetment of suicide punishable under Section 108 of the BNS, there must be prima facie material indicating the existence of *mens rea* on the part of the accused and a direct or

proximate act of incitement, instigation or intentional aid which leaves the deceased with no option except to commit suicide.

10. Having regard to the totality of the circumstances, particularly the nature and gravity of the allegations against the petitioner, the fact that he has no criminal antecedents, has expressed his willingness to cooperate with the investigation, and there is no material presently available to indicate that he is likely to abscond, influence witnesses, or tamper with evidence, this Court is of the considered opinion that custodial interrogation of the petitioner does not appear to be indispensable at this stage. The interests of the investigation can be adequately safeguarded by imposing appropriate conditions to secure the petitioner's availability and cooperation during the course of the investigation, while simultaneously preserving his valuable right to personal liberty.

11. Resultantly, the Criminal Petition is allowed. The petitioner shall be enlarged on bail, subject to the following conditions:

(A) The petitioner/Accused No.1 shall surrender before the Station House Officer, Dharur Police Station, Vikarabad District on or before 07.07.2026. Upon such surrender or in the event of arrest the Station House Officer shall release them on bail on execution of a personal bond for a sum of Rs.25,000/- (Rupees Twenty Five Thousand only)

each, with two sureties for a like sum each, to the satisfaction of the said officer.

(B) The petitioner shall remain available before the Investigating Officer, as and when required during the course of the investigation and shall extend full cooperation to the Investigating Officer.

(C) The petitioner shall appear before the Investigating officer on every Tuesday and Thursday between 11.00 am and 02.00 pm for a period of eight (8) weeks from the date of his release on bail and shall cooperate with the investigation in all respects.

(D) The petitioner shall furnish his complete residential addresses and contact details to the Investigating Officer and shall keep the same updated throughout the course of investigation.

(E) The petitioner shall not either directly or indirectly induce, threaten, influence, or contact any prosecution witness, nor shall he tamper with the prosecution evidence in any manner whatsoever.

10. It is made clear that the observations made herein are confined solely to the adjudication of the present application for anticipatory bail and shall not be construed as expressing any opinion on the merits of the case.

Miscellaneous applications, if any pending, shall stand closed.

Date: 25.06.2026

N.TUKARAMJI, J

MRKR

THE HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE N. TUKARAMJI

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MRKR