IN THE HIGH COURT FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA
AT HYDERABAD

TUESDAY, THE SIXTH DAY OF OCTOBER
TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY SIX

PRESENT

THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE J SREENIVAS RAO

CRIMINAL PETITION NO: 12602 OF 2026

Between:

1. K. Ramesh Babu, S/o. Mr. K. Ramu, aged 47 years Presently working as Dy. General Manager LCB Head, Punjab National Bank, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
2. Arvind Kalra, S/o. Mr. Santlal Kalra, aged 50 years Occupation: Circle Head, Punjab National Bank 1st First Floor, Regency Plaza, Maitrivihar Area Ameerpet, Hyderabad - 500 038
3. Sundeep Katchi, S/o. Mr. Ramesh Katchi, aged 36 years Occupation. Chief Manager, Punjab National Bank, Abids, MCC, Hyderabad - 500 001.

...Petitioners/Accused No.2 to 4

AND

1. State of Telangana, Rep.by the Public Prosecutor High Court for the State of Telangana Hyderabad.
2. The Central Crime Station, Rep. by its Inspector, EOW Team CCS, DD, Basheer Bagh, Hyderabad.

...Respondents/Complainants

3. Mr. Vemula Satya Murthy, S/o. V. Rajalingam, aged 69 years Occupation: Business, R/o. H.No.8-2-316 Plot No.16, Road No.14, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad.

...Respondent No.3/Defacto Complainant

Petition under Section 528 of BNSS praying that in the circumstances stated in the Memorandum of Grounds of Criminal Petition, the High Court may be pleased to call for the records relating to FIR. No.178 of 2026 (Registered under Sec.318(4), 316(5), 111(1) r/w 3(5) BNS at Central Crime Station, Basheer Bagh, Hyderabad and quash the same against the Petitioners No.2 to 4 in the interest of justice.

I.A. NO: 2 OF 2026

Pet tion under Section 528 of BNSS praying that in the circumstances stated in the Memorandum of Grounds of Criminal Petition, the High Court may be pleased to grant stay of all further proceedings including arrest and personal appearance of the Petitioners herein in FIR No.178 of 2026, dated 30-07-2026 Registered under Sec.318(4), 316(5), 111(1) r/w 3(5) BNS at Central Crime Station, Basheer Bagh, Hyderabad pending disposal of the Quash Petition.

I.A. NO: 4 OF 2026

Pet tion under Section 528 of BNSS praying that in the circumstances stated in the Memorandum of Grounds of Criminal Petition, the High Court may be pleased it is therefore prayed that this Honble Court may be pleased to extend the interim orders in Crl P No 12602 of 2026.

This Petition coming on for hearing, upon perusing the Memorandum of Grounds of Criminal Petition and upon hearing the arguments of Sri Kalpana Ekbote, Advocate for the Petitioners and Sri Jithender Rao Veeramalla, Additional Public Prosecutor on behalf of the Respondent Nos.1 and 2 and Ms.Tanushree, counsel representing Sri T.Anirudh Reddy, Advocate for the Respondent No.3.

The Court made the following: ORDER

IN THE HIGH COURT FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA AT HYDERABAD

THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE J.SREENIVAS RAO

CRIMINAL PETITION No.12602 of 2026

CNR.No. HBHC010529602026

Date: 06.10.2026

Between:
K.Ramesh Babu and two others

...Petitioners

AND

The State of Telangana and two others

...Respondents

ORDER

This Criminal Petition has been filed by the petitioners/accused Nos.2 to 4 seeking to quash the proceedings in FIR No.178 of 2026 of INSP ADMIN (DD) Police Station, Hyderabad, registered for the offences punishable under Sections 318(4), 316(5) and 111(1) r/w 3(5) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (for short 'BNS').

2. Heard Ms.Kalpana Ekbote, learned counsel for the petitioners, Mr.Jithender Rao Veeramalla, learned Additional Public Prosecutor for respondent Nos.1 and 2 and Ms.Tanushree,

learned counsel representing Mr.T.Anirudh Reddy, learned counsel for respondent No.3.

3. The learned counsel for the petitioners submitted that the petitioners have not committed the alleged offence and have been falsely implicated in the present crime by making omnibus allegations. He further submitted that the petitioners are bank officials of Punjab National Bank and they discharged their duties in their official capacity and there was no dishonest intention on their part and there was no conspiracy between the petitioners and the other accused. Even according to the allegations made in the complaint, the ingredients of Sections 318(4), 316(5) and 111(1) r/w 3(5) of the BNS are not attracted against the petitioners. Therefore, the continuation of proceedings against the petitioners is a clear abuse of the process of law.

4. *Per contra*, the learned Additional Public Prosecutor submitted that there are specific allegations in the complaint indicating dishonest intention on the part of the petitioners and a conspiracy between the petitioners and the other accused. Whether the allegations levelled in the complaint are true or not has to be ascertained during the course of investigation, particularly when

the investigation is still in progress. At this stage, the petitioners are not entitled to seek quashment of the proceedings against them.

5. The learned counsel for respondent No.3 submitted that, however, this Court, vide order dated 05.08.2026, directed the Investigating Officer not to take any coercive steps against the petitioners, and the said order may be continued.

6. The learned Additional Public Prosecutor reiterated the very same submission made by respondent No.3.

7. Having considered the rival submissions made by the respective parties and upon perusal of the material available on record, it reveals that the petitioners are bank officials of Punjab National Bank. Whether the allegations levelled against the petitioners in the complaint are true or not has to be revealed during the course of investigation. Even according to the learned Additional Public Prosecutor, the investigation is still in progress.

8. Taking into consideration the peculiar facts and circumstances of the case and the submissions made by the respective parties, the Investigating Officer is directed not to take any coercive steps against the petitioners. However, the

investigation may proceed in accordance with law. It is needless to mention that the petitioners are entitled to put forth their grievance by raising all the pleas available to them and are also entitled to submit the documents available with them before the Investigating Officer.

9. Accordingly, the Criminal Petition is disposed of.

Miscellaneous applications, pending if any, shall stand closed.

SD/-C. DEEPIKA
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

//TRUE COPY//

SECTION OFFICER

To

1. The XII Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate at Nampally.
2. Station House Officer, Police Station Insp Admin (DD), Hyderabad.
3. Two CCs to PUBLIC PROSECUTOR High Court for the State of Telangana, at Hyderabad [OUT]
4. One CC to Sri Kalpana Ekbote Advocate [OPUC]
5. One CC to Sri T.Anirudh Reddy, Advocate [OPUC]
6. Two CD Copies

BA/GNK

HIGH COURT

DATED: 06/10/2026



ORDER

CRLP.No.12602 of 2026

DISPOSING OF THE CRIMINAL PETITION

PVL
15/10/2026