IN THE HIGH COURT FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA AT HYDERABAD

THURSDAY, THE FIRST DAY OF OCTOBER
TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY SIX

PRESENT

THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE J SREENIVAS RAO

CRIMINAL PETITION NO: 16174 OF 2026

Between:

Ediga Veerendra, S/o. E. Pallaiah, Age. 26 years, Occ. Driver, R/o. Ho. No.4-124, Eedigonipally Village, Aize Mandal, Jogulamba Gadwal District.

...PETITIONER/SOLE ACCUSED

AND

The State of Telangana, rep.by its Public Prosecutor, High Court of Telangana at Hyderabad, Through The SHO Aize police station, Jogulamba Gadwal.

...RESPONDENT/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 quash the proceedings in CC No. 772 Of 2025 on the file the Court Of Judicial First Class Magistrate At Gadwal, against the Petitioners.

I.A. NO: 2 OF 2026

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 grant stay of all further against the petitioner/ Accused in CC No. 772 of 2025 on the file the Court Of Judicial First Class Magistrate At Gadwal, Jogulamba Gadwal District including dispense with the appearance petitioner of the till the disposal of the Main Quash Petition in the interest of the justice.

This Petition coming on for hearing, upon perusing the Memorandum of Grounds of Criminal Petition and upon hearing the arguments of Sri G CHANDRASEKHAR, Advocate for the Petitioner and Sri Jithender Rao Veeramalla, the Addl. Public Prosecutor on behalf of the sole Respondent.

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.16174 of 2026
CNR.No. HBHC010677792026
Date: 01.10.2026

Between:

Ediga Veerendra

...Petitioner

AND

The State of Telangana

...Respondent

ORDER

This Criminal Petition has been filed by the petitioner/accused seeking to quash the proceedings in C.C.No.772 of 2025 on the file of the Additional Judicial First Class Magistrate, Gadwal.

2. Heard Mr.G.Chandrashekar, learned counsel for the petitioner and Mr.Jithender Rao Veeramalla, learned Additional Public Prosecutor for respondent.

3. The specific allegation against the petitioner that he has procured PDS rice from the beneficiaries at cheaper rate to sell

the same for profit and on 11.10.2025, the petitioner was found in possession of 77 quintals of PDS rice.

4. Learned counsel for the petitioner would submit that without there being any complaint from any beneficiary, alleging that the rice was procured deceptively or with a criminal intent and charging the petitioner for prosecution is untenable and improper. The allegations, even taken at his face value cannot be sustained against the petitioner. Further, this Court, in Crl.P.No.5709 of 2019, while considering the same situation, categorically observed that the offences alleged against the petitioners therein could not be continued and accordingly quashed the proceedings. The petitioner is also entitled to the same relief and hence prayed to quash the proceedings against the petitioner.

5. The learned Additional Public Prosecutor submits that as per prosecution, the offences said to have been committed by the petitioner is cheating and violation of Section 7 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 (for short 'EC Act') and requested to pass appropriate orders.

6. Section 7 of the EC Act contemplate that any person contravenes with the production, supply, distribution and trade of essential commodities, is punishable. As per the prosecution, the petitioner has procured PDS rice from the beneficiaries after supply from the dealer.

7. A Coordinate Bench of this Court in Crl.P.No.7227 of 2025 has considered the identical facts and observed that:

> *"There is no averment indicating that the petitioner in any way deceptively induced the beneficiaries to part with the supplied PDS rice or the beneficiary entrusted the PDS rice purchased by them with the petitioner and they dishonestly misappropriated or converted to their own use or used it in violation of a lawful direction or contract. In the absence of essential factors, on the face of prosecution, this Court finds it to be a fit case to exercise the jurisdiction under Section 528 of BNSS, 2023. Thus, continuance of proceedings against the petitioner is abuse of process of law".*

8. The facts and circumstances of the present case also similar to those in the above case and hence, this Court finds it to be a fit case to exercise jurisdiction under Section 528 of BNSS by applying the same analogy and to quash the proceedings against the petitioner herein.

9. Accordingly, the Criminal Petition is allowed and the proceedings in C.C.No.772 of 2025 on the file of the Additional

Judicial First Class Magistrate, Gadwal, against the petitioner/accused, are hereby quashed.

Pending miscellaneous applications, if any, shall stand closed.

SD/- K. BHAVANI SWAMY
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

//TRUE COPY//

SECTION OFFICER

To,

1. The Addl. Judicial Magistrate of First Class, Gadwal
2. The Station House Officer, Police Station Aize, Jogulamba Gadwal District
3. Two CCs to PUBLIC PROSECUTOR High Court for the State of Telangana, at Hyderabad [OUT]
4. One CC to SRI. G CHANDRASEKHAR Advocate [OPUC]
5. Two CD Copies

TPK/GNK

HIGH COURT

DATED: 01/10/2026

ORDER

CRLP.No.16174 of 2026



CRIMINAL PETITION IS ALLOWED

8 copies
21/10/26
R K