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* **IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI**
+ **BAIL APPLN. 342/2026**
SUNIL THAKURPetitioner

Through: Mr. Mannu Chandila with Mr. Rahul
Kasana, Ms. Nandini Jaiswal,
Mr. Shaivya Singh and Ms. Naina
Chauhan, Advocates.

versus

THE STATE NCT OF DELHIRespondent
Through: Mr. Sunil Kumar Gautam, APP for the
State with Insp. Devi Lal, PS Model
Town.

CORAM:
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MANOJ JAIN

ORDER
24.03.2026

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1. When the present bail application was taken up on last date of hearing
i.e. 27.01.2026, the following facts were recorded:-

- “1. Applicant seeks anticipatory bail in FIR No.67/2016 under Sections 420/419/467/468/471/120 B of IPC at P.S. Model Town.*
- 2. The FIR was, though, registered in the year 2016 and, according to applicant, he had received communication for the first time from the police on 19.12.2025 whereby he has been directed to report at P.S. Model Town to join the investigation.*
- 3. He submits that prior to the above notice, at no point of time, the applicant was ever contacted or was served with any notice.*
- 4. Learned APP for the State appears on advance notice and seeks time to file exhaustive report.*
- 5. Let the report be filed and let the same also indicate as to when, for the first time, the applicant was asked to join the investigation or, for that matter, was contacted by the Police Authority.*
- 6. Learned APP for the State, however, submits that as per the instructions which he has received from the present I.O., some action is already contemplated against the previous Investigating Officer.*



7. *Let status report be filed by next date of hearing with advance copy to opposite side.*
8. *In the meanwhile, the applicant is directed to join the investigation and would co-operate fully with the investigation. Let no further coercive steps be taken against him till next date of hearing."*
2. It is now informed that the applicant has joined the investigation.
3. Learned Addl. P.P. for the State, on instructions from the Investigating Officer, submits that the investigation is almost over and every effort would be made to file charge-sheet, as expeditiously as possible, as FIR is of the year 2016.
4. Undoubtedly, there are serious allegations of conspiracy, cheating, forgery and impersonation against the applicant herein but fact remains that FIR is of the year 2016 and, in the interregnum, no concrete steps have been taken in the matter and no efforts seem to have been made to apprehend the accused.
5. Keeping in mind the intervening time-gap, which is of around nine years and the fact that applicant has already joined the investigation and does not seem required for any custodial interrogation, the abovesaid order dated 27.01.2026 is, hereby, made absolute and it is directed that applicant shall keep on assisting the investigation and in the event of his arrest, he be released on bail by the concerned SHO/IO/arresting officer, on his furnishing personal bond and surety bond in a sum of Rs.25,000/- each.
6. It is, however, clarified that this Court has not made any observation on merits of the case, as such.
7. The application is, accordingly, disposed of.

MANOJ JAIN, J

MARCH 24, 2026/st/sa