2026:AHC:211028

HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT ALLAHABAD

CRIMINAL MISC. BAIL APPLICATION No. - 31857 of 2026

Sumit Gautam

.....Applicant(s)

Versus

State Of U.P. And 3 Others

.....Opposite Party(s)

Counsel for Applicant(s)	:	Amitya Singh, Ram Kesh
Counsel for Opposite Party(s)	:	G.A.

Court No. - 67

HON'BLE JITENDRA KUMAR SINHA, J.

1. Heard Sri Ram Kesh, learned counsel for the applicant, Sri B.P. Maurya, learned AGA for the State-respondents and perused the record.

2. The present bail application under Section 483 of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, has been filed on behalf of applicant with a prayer to release him on bail in Case Crime No. 166 of 2026 under Sections 137(2), 87, 64(1) BNS, 3/4 POCSO Act registered at Police Station Gaurabadshahpur, District Jaunpur during pendency of the trial.

3. At the very outset, learned A.G.A. states that notice has been served upon the first informant.

4. It is contended by learned counsel for the applicant that applicant has been falsely implicated in the present case and the victim in her statement recorded under Sections 180 and 183 BNSS has stated that she had left her home on her free will and had gone to Gujrat where the applicant lived and entered into matrimonial alliance with him with her free consent as she was in love with him. It is further submitted that age of the victim has been found to be 15 years 10 months as per her certificate of Class VIIIth, however, there is no High School certificate or the certificate of school first attended and no radio-logical examination has been conducted for her age determination. It is further submitted that victim has refused to undergo medico-legal examination. It is also submitted that applicant, who has no criminal history, has been languishing in jail since 01.7.2026. It is lastly submitted that in case applicant is granted bail, he will not misuse the liberty

of bail and would cooperate in the trial proceedings.

5. On the other hand, learned A.G.A. opposed the prayer for grant of bail to the applicant and submits that victim is a minor girl aged about 15 years 10 months as per her certificate of Class VIIIth.

6. Daughter of the first informant aged about 16 years is said to have gone missing and the FIR has been lodged against unknown, however, she has been recovered. The victim in her statement recorded under Sections 180 and 183 BNSS has stated that she had left her home on her own free will and had gone to Gujrat where the applicant lived and entered into matrimonial alliance with him with her free consent as she was in love with him. The victim is aged about 15 years and 10 months as per her certificate of Class VIIIth, however, there is no High School certificate or the certificate of school first attended and no radio-logical examination has been conducted for her age determination. The victim has refused to undergo medico-legal examination. Applicant, who has no criminal history, has been languishing in jail since 01.7.2026.

7. Considering the entire facts and circumstances of the case, submissions of learned counsel for the parties and keeping in view the nature of offence, evidence, complicity of the accused and taking into account overcrowded jails and heavy pendency of criminal cases before the trial courts as well as considering the mandate of the judgement of the Apex Court in the case of ***Kapil Wadhawan vs Central Bureau of Investigation*** reported in ***2025 SCC OnLine SC 3038*** as well as guideline of this Court in the case of ***Maya Tiwari Vs. State of U.P.*** reported in ***2024 SCC Online All 6765*** regarding grant of bail and without expressing any opinion on the merits of the case, I am of the opinion that the applicant is entitled to be enlarged on bail.

8. Let the applicant **Sumit Gautam** involved in the aforementioned crime be released on bail, on his furnishing a personal bond and two sureties each in the like amount, to the satisfaction of the court concerned, with the following conditions:-

(i) The applicant shall not directly or indirectly make any inducement, threat or promise to any person acquainted with the facts of the case so as to dissuade him from disclosing such facts to the Court or to any police officer

or tamper with the evidence.

(ii) The applicant shall cooperate in the trial/investigation sincerely without seeking any adjournment.

(iii) The applicant shall not indulge in any criminal activity or commission of any crime after being released on bail.

(iv) The applicant shall attend in accordance with the conditions of the bond executed by him.

9. In case of breach of any of the above conditions, it shall be a ground for cancellation of bail.

10. Identity, status and residence proof of the applicant and sureties be verified by the court concerned before the bonds are accepted. Verification of mobile number and Aadhaar card of the applicant as well as sureties should be verified by the court concerned.

11. It is further directed that the trial court shall send the release order to the concerned jail through Bail Order Management System (BOMS) to ensure early release of the applicant.

12. Office is directed to send a copy of this order to the applicant through concerned Jail Superintendent via e-mail or e-prison portal within 24 hours in compliance of the order of the Apex Court in the case of ***Policy Strategy for Grant of Bail, In Re: Suo Motu Writ Petition (Crl.) No.4 of 2021*** decided on 31.01.2023 reported in ***(2024) 10 SCC 685.***

(Jitendra Kumar Sinha,J.)

October 8, 2026
Madhurima

Digitally signed by :-
MADHURIMA GARG
High Court of Judicature at Allahabad