

**IN THE COURT OF VIDYA PRAKASH
SPECIAL JUDGE (PC ACT) (ACB)-01
ROUSE AVENUE COURT COMPLEX, NEW DELHI**

CNR No. DLCT11-000353-2026
Bail Matter No. 82/2026
Dinesh Dabas v. State

AND

CNR No. DLCT11-000352-2026
Bail Matter No. 83/2026
Jogender v. State

FIR No. 4/2026
PS: ACB
U/s 7,7A PC Act
r/w S.308(5)/61(2) BNS

ORDER

1. Vide this common order, I shall dispose off two separate bail applications moved on behalf of above named accused persons, as they arise out of the same FIR.
2. Separate replies of both the aforesaid bail applications have been filed.
3. Arguments on both the aforesaid bail applications have been heard on behalf of both the sides. I have duly considered rival submissions made on behalf of both the sides in the light of material available on record. I have also duly considered the authorities cited at the Bar.
4. Sh. Adarsh Priyadarshi, Advocate, who appeared on behalf of applicant/accused Dinesh Dabas, has argued that the said accused has been falsely implicated in the present case; he is continuously in custody since 09-02-2026, the

investigation qua the said accused has already been completed and thus, is no more required for the purpose of investigation. He further argued that the investigating agency had obtained 3 days PC remand of said accused, during which, nothing incriminating was recovered either from his possession or at his instance and thereafter, IO never sought police remand of said accused till date; the entire evidence is documentary in nature; the material witnesses of prosecution are primarily official witnesses and thus, there is no possibility of of the applicant/ accused tampering with the evidence, or influencing any of the prosecution witnesses in any manner. He further argued that co-accused Pankaj, who was allegedly apprehended on the spot with accused Dinesh Dabas and against whom similar allegations appear in the FIR, has already been granted bail by this Court on 02.04.2026. He further contended that even co-accused Ravi, who as per the case of prosecution, had sent accused Dinesh Dabas to collect the alleged bribe/ extortion money, has also been granted bail by this Court on 02.04.2026. He, therefore, urged that accused Dinesh Dabas also deserves to be granted bail on the ground of parity.

5. He further submitted that the said accused is permanent resident of Delhi and undertakes to abide by all the terms and conditions as may be imposed upon him by the Court, if so granted bail.
6. In support of his aforesaid submissions, he also placed reliance upon the following decisions of Hon'ble Delhi

High Court:-

- 6.1 '*Anuj Gupta v. Central Bureau of Investigation*' bearing Bail Application No. 279/2022, decided on 23.02.2022;
 - 6.2 '*Kashif v. Narcotic Control Bureau*' having neutral citation 2026:DHC:1195;
 - 6.3 '*Vikramjit Singh v. Narcotic Control Bureau*' reported as 2025 SCC OnLine Del 173; and
 - 6.4 '*Yudhveer Singh Yadav v. CBI*' reported as 2024 SCC Online Del 7070.
7. Likewise, Sh. Dharam Singh and Sh. Som Prakash, Advocates, who appeared on behalf of other applicant/accused Jogender, argued that said accused has been falsely implicated in the present case; he is continuously in custody since 06-03-2026, the investigation qua the said accused has already been completed and thus, he is no more required for the purpose of investigation. They further argued that accused Jogender was arrested merely on the basis of disclosure statement of co-accused Manish and nothing incriminating was recovered either from his possession or at his instance. It has been further argued that the said accused had duly co-operated with investigation at all stages and he is neither named in the FIR, nor he evaded the process of law during the course of investigation. It is further argued that the applicant/accused was working as Head Warder in Tihar Jail and thus, he is not a flight risk and he is having clean antecedents. They

further argued that co-accused persons namely Ashish Rana, Pankaj Kumar and Ravi Kumar have already been granted bail in this case and therefore, the applicant/accused also deserves to be granted bail on such terms and conditions as may be imposed by the Court.

8. *Per contra*, both the bail applications have been strongly opposed by Ld. Chief PP for State, on the ground that both the accused persons have played an important role in the commission of offences alleged in this case. He submitted that complainant namely Sh. Kunal had been receiving repeated calls on his phone from his father Rakesh and brother Aniket, who are inmates in Rohini Jail and were allegedly under pressure, and they had been asking him to pay bribe to the jail officials. He further submitted that co-accused Ravi had obtained details of complainant Kunal, from Rakesh Jatti and Aniket [who are father and brother respectively of complainant] from inside Rohini Jail and sent scanned copy thereof to accused Dinesh Dabas alongwith text message '*abhi baat kar liyo*' on 09.02.2026 at 18:29 hours, on the basis of which, accused Dinesh Dabas alongwith co-accused Pankaj Kumar were caught red handed while accepting the bribe money of ₹50,000/- from the complainant on 09.02.2026 during the trap laid down by the raiding team of PS ACB and bribe money of ₹50,000/- was recovered from the possession of accused Dinesh Dabas. He pointed out that accused Jogender had been using ATM Card of co-accused Manish, for withdrawing amounts through ATM installed near Tihar

Jail Complex, for which, attention of Court has been drawn to the relevant transactions regarding withdrawal of such amounts on number of occasions w.e.f. 10.01.2025 onwards till 23.01.2026.

9. The bail applications have also been opposed on the grounds that investigation is still going on and more evidence is likely to surface, which would establish the connection of these accused persons, as also the role played by them in the commission of offences alleged against them. He, therefore, urged that both the bail applications may be dismissed.
10. In brief, the FIR in question was registered on 09.02.2026, on the basis of written complaint dated 09.02.2026 lodged by Sh. Kunal at PS ACB, wherein he alleged that his father and brother, who were accused in criminal case of PS Raja Park, were lodged in Rohini Jail since the year 2020; the jail officials had made the lives of his father and brother hell inside Rohini Jail for the last about 6-7 months and they had to repeatedly pay bribe money to them, due to which, they had to sell their house also. While narrating several instances where such bribe money were allegedly paid from time to time during the said period, he alleged that on 04.02.2026, he had received call from his father/UTP through mobile number from inside Rohini Jail that jail officials would help him in release on parole for 15 days in case they would pay bribe money of ₹1,50,000/-, which was followed by another call from his father, who having told him that he was being pressurized

by jail officials to pay the bribe money, failing which, they had threatened him of being killed after being transferred from said jail and thus, he had to transfer a sum of ₹47,000/- through PayTM on mobile number of one person namely Manish. Similarly, on 06.02.2026, he had received another call from his father/UTP from inside the Rohini Jail that jail officials were giving beatings to them and were repeatedly pressurizing them to pay the bribe money. He, thus, asked the complainant to bring ₹1,50,000/- at petrol pump situated near Rohini Jail. When the complainant did not go there on that day, he received another call on 07.02.2026 from his father/UTP, who informed him that due to non-payment of bribe by complainant on 06.02.2026, he was tortured by the jail officials and on the request of his father, the complainant again transferred a sum of ₹50,000/- through PayTM on the same number of said Manish. He further alleged that he had transferred various amounts through PayTM on other PayTM numbers of various other persons, as per the details mentioned in the said complaint. On 08.02.2026, he had received another call from his father/UTP from inside the Rohini Jail, who asked him about the reason for not paying the bribe money to the jail officials, and he was being harassed by them due to non-payment of such money. On 09.02.2026, his brother/UTP also made call to the complainant from inside Rohini Jail and told him that the complainant would have to arrange for the bribe money under any circumstance and would have to pay the same to the jail officials on that day itself, for which, the jail

officials *i.e.* Head Ravi, Dinesh or some other person/staff to be deputed by them, would contact him through phone and the complainant should pay the bribe money to them.

11. Accordingly, trap was laid down by the raiding team of PS ACB. During the trap proceedings, complainant had produced cash of ₹1,00,000/- in the form of 200 GC notes of the denomination of ₹500/- each and allegedly handed over 100 GC notes of ₹500/- each smeared with phenolphthalein powder, thus, amounting to ₹50,000/-, to applicant/accused Ashish Rana who had allegedly come at petrol pump near Rohini Jail and said GC notes smeared with phenolphthalein powder, were recovered from his possession. Thereafter, the complainant received several calls in between 05:30 pm to 06:21 pm on 09.02.2026 and he was asked to pay further amount of ₹50,000/- to Jail Warden who would visit him. Accordingly, further trap was laid, during which, the complainant handed over remaining 100 GC notes of ₹500/- each, duly smeared with phenolphthalein powder, to co-accused Dinesh Dabas and applicant/accused Pankaj Kumar, who had come on one white colour scooty, on which, applicant/accused Pankaj Kumar was sitting as pillion rider and said GC notes were recovered from the possession of co-accused Dinesh Dabas. Thereafter, applicant/ accused Ravi Kumar was asked to join investigation, through Notice under S.35(3) of BNSS dated 14.02.2026 for 16.02.2026, on which date, he was also arrested in this case.

12. As per the case of prosecution, the role ascribed to applicant/accused Dinesh Dabas is that he was caught red handed, while he alongwith co-accused Pankaj Kumar [since granted bail] had gone to receive bribe money of ₹50,000/- from the complainant on the alleged date, time and place of incident in question. Further, as per the case of prosecution, the alleged bribe money of ₹50,000/- was recovered from the possession of applicant/accused Dinesh Dabas.
13. The role attributed to applicant/accused Jogender is that he was using ATM Card of co-accused Manish and withdrew certain amounts from time to time through ATM installed near Tihar Jail Campus, as also from ATM installed at other places.
14. Though, IO has mentioned in replies to bail applications under consideration that more evidence has surfaced during subsequent investigation, however, entire replies are found to be silent as to why these applicants/accused persons are required to be further detained in custody for the purpose of investigation of this case, and/or what purpose would be served by keeping them behind the jail. The applicants/accused persons cannot be deprived of their personal liberty merely because further investigation is going on. It is also nowhere the case of investigating agency that applicants/accused persons are not permanent residents of Delhi and are flight risks. The entire evidence is mainly documentary in nature and there is nothing on record to show that applicants/accused persons are in a

position to tamper with the evidence in any manner whatsoever.

15. In so far as applicant/accused Dinesh Dabas is concerned, he is continuously in custody since 10.02.2026, whereas, applicant/accused Jogender is continuously in custody since 06.03.2026. Both the said accused are not shown to be previously involved in any other criminal case. Both are public servants and are stated to be unblemished service record. Investigation qua all these applicants/ accused persons is shown to have already been completed. Moreover, investigation may take considerable time as role of jail officials named in the FIR, as also role of other jail officials/ private persons whose names have surfaced during the course of investigation carried out so far, is still underway. Furthermore, co-accused persons namely Ashish Rana, Pankaj Kumar and Ravi Kumar have already been granted bail in this case. The role attributed to applicant/accused Dinesh Dabas is more or less similar to the role assigned to co-accused Pankaj Kumar. The role allegedly played by applicant/accused Jogender is lesser than that of co-accused persons who have already been granted bail in this case.
16. Though, it is mentioned in reply filed by IO that applicants/ accused persons may influence the witnesses and may tamper with the evidence in the event of grant of bail to them, however, neither any concrete basis of such apprehension is disclosed in the replies, nor shown before the Court during the course of submission.

17. In view of reasons mentioned hereinbefore and keeping in view overall facts and circumstances of the case, including the period of incarceration of applicants/ accused persons, the nature of evidence alleged against them, the role allegedly played by them in the commission of the crime, and the fact that co-accused persons namely Ashish Rana, Ravi and Pankaj Kumar have since already been granted bail, Court is of the view that both the bail applications deserve to be allowed. Accordingly, both the accused persons namely Dinesh Dabas and Jogender are admitted to bail on their furnishing personal bond in the sum of ₹50,000/- each with one surety each in the like amount, however, subject to the following conditions:-

17.1 That applicants/accused persons shall join the investigation in this case as and when so required by the IO;

17.2 That the applicants/accused persons shall not try to contact or influence, directly or indirectly, complainant or any other witness of present case and shall not tamper with evidence;

17.3 That applicants/accused persons shall not misuse the liberty of bail by indulging in commission of similar offence(s) in future;

17.4 That applicants/accused persons shall appear before the Court on each and every date of hearing, when so required;

17.5 That applicants/accused persons shall not leave the

country without prior permission of the Court;

17.6 That applicants/accused persons shall intimate to the Court in case of change of their residential address; and

17.7 In the event of breach of any of the aforesaid conditions imposed by the Court, it shall be open for the State to apply for cancellation of bail being granted to the applicants/ accused persons herein.

18. Both the bail applications stand disposed off in the aforesaid terms.

19. Copy of this order be given Dasti to the IO, as well as to Ld. Counsels for the applicants/accused persons, as requested. Copy of this order be also sent to concerned Jail Superintendent(s), for being delivered to the said accused persons, as per the Rules.

20. It is hereby made clear that nothing mentioned herein shall tantamount to expression of any opinion by this Court on merits of the case and the observations made hereinbefore, are solely for the purpose of deciding the bail applications in hand.

(Vidya Prakash)
Special Judge, PC Act (ACB)-01
RACC, New Delhi.
07.04.2026^(r)