

M.L. CASE NO 08 OF 2025
CNR-WBCS01-000381-2025
Present: Sri Sukumar Ray
Chief Judge, City Sessions Court, Calcutta
J.O. CODE NO.WB00590.

Order no.18 dated 06.09.2025

Today is fixed for S/R, appearance of the accused persons Mayank Seth, Souvik Poddar, Subham Gupta, Tapash Barman, Gupi Ghosh, Mantosh Mahato and Santosh Mahato, production of the accused persons Vishal Bharadwaj @ Bishal, Sonu Kumar Thakur, Abhishek Bansal and supply of copies.

Non production reports of accused Vishal Bharadwaj @ Bishal and Abhishek Bansal are received from the Superintendent, Presidency Correctional Home. Let the same be kept with the record.

Accused persons **Vishal Bharadwaj @ Bishal, Sonu Kumar Thakur and Abhishek Bansal** are produced before this Court through virtual mode.

Ld. Special Public Prosecutors for the Enforcement Directorate are present.

Accused Maynak Seth is not present today.

Ld. Advocate for accused Mayank Seth files a petition praying for condoning the absence of this accused person.

Heard. Considered. The prayer is allowed.

Ld. Advocate for accused Mayank Seth files another petition and submits that CRM(A) No. 3165 of 2025 is pending before the Hon'ble Court and he prays for keeping this petition with the case record.

Heard. Considered. The prayer is allowed. Let the same be kept with the record.

The accused persons Souvik Poddar, Subham Gupta, Tapash Barman, Gupi Ghosh, Mantosh Mahato and Santosh Mahato appear before this Court as per summons issued by this Court and they are taken into custody.

Haziras have been filed on behalf of accused persons Souvik Poddar, Subham Gupta, Tapash Barman, Gupi Ghosh, Mantosh Mahato and Santosh Mahato.

Ld. Advocates for accused persons Souvik Poddar, Subham Gupta, Tapash Barman, Gupi Ghosh, Mantosh Mahato and Santosh Mahato files separate petitions praying for their bail.

Now the bail petitions filed today on behalf of **Souvik Poddar, Subham Gupta, Tapash Barman, Gupi Ghosh, Mantosh Mahato and Santosh Mahato** are taken up for hearing.

Ld. Advocates of the accused/petitioners submits that the accused/petitioners voluntarily surrenders before this Court as per summons issued by this Court and also undertakes to remain present on each and every date of hearing if they are granted bail and he prays for bail of the accused/petitioners on any terms and conditions.

In support of his contention, Ld. Advocate for the accused/petitioners cited one Judgement of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in the case of **Tarsem Lal Vs Directorate of Enforcement Jalandhar Zonal Office** reported in **2024 SCC OnLine SC 971** and also draws the attention of paragraph 23(c) which is set out as follows “ *After a summons is issued under Section 204 of the CrPC on taking cognizance of the offence punishable under Section 4 of the PMLA on a complaint. If the accused appears before the Special Court pursuant to the summons, he shall not be treated as if he is in custody.*”

Therefore, it is not necessary for him to apply for bail. However, the Special Court can direct the accused to furnish bond in terms of Section 88 of the CrPC”.

Ld. Special Public Prosecutors on behalf of the Enforcement Directorate have raised formal objection regarding the bail prayers of the accused/petitioners.

Heard both sides.

Perused the case record and the petitions filed by the accused/petitioners.

It reveals from the case record that the accused/petitioners have voluntarily surrendered before this Court as per summons issued by this Court and also considering the nature and role of the accused persons in the alleged offence and in view of the observation of the Hon'ble Apex Court, the prayer for bail of the accused/petitioners **Souvik Poddar, Subham Gupta, Tapash Barman, Gupi Ghosh, Mantosh Mahato and Santosh Mahato** are **allowed**.

Accused/petitioners **Souvik Poddar, Subham Gupta, Tapash Barman, Gupi Ghosh, Mantosh Mahato and Santosh Mahato** may find bail of **Rs. 10,000/-** each with two sureties of **Rs. 5,000/-** each subject to the satisfaction of Ld. Chief Judicial Magistrate, Calcutta i.d J.C till 20.09.2025.

Accused/petitioners **Souvik Poddar, Subham Gupta, Tapash Barman, Gupi Ghosh, Mantosh Mahato and Santosh Mahato** are directed to appear before this Court on each and every date of hearing.

Fixing **31.10.2025** for appearance of the accused persons Souvik Poddar, Subham Gupta, Tapash Barman, Gupi Ghosh, Mantosh Mahato and Santosh Mahato before this court, if on bail.

Todate i.e. on 31.10.2025 for appearance of accused Mayank Seth.

Fixing **20.09.2025** for production of the accused persons Vishal Bharadwaj @ Bishal, Sonu Kumar Thakur and Abhishek Bansal before this Court.

Accused Vishal Bharadwaj @ Bishal, Sonu Kumar Thakur and Abhishek Bansal be remanded to J.C till date i.e. on 20.09.2025.

Ld. Special Public Prosecutors for Enforcement Directorate have filed acknowledgement receipt with regard to the supply of Relied upon Documents to the accused persons namely, namely Vishal Bharadwaj @ Badal Bharadwaj, Mayank Seth, Souvik Poddar, Subham Gupta, Tapash Barman, Gupi Ghosh, Mantosh Mahato and Santosh Mahato.

Perused the same and let these be kept with the record.

Let a copy of this order be sent to the Ld. Chief Judicial Magistrate., Calcutta for information and taking necessary action.

Let a copy of this order be sent to the Enforcement Directorate through Ld. Special Public Prosecutors for information and necessary action.

D/C by me

Sd/-

Chief Judge
City Sessions Court, Calcutta

Sd/-

Chief Judge
City Sessions Court, Calcutta