



2026:CGHC:3019



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NAFR

HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH AT BILASPUR

MCRC No. 646 of 2026

Shani Soni S/o Shri Brijlal Soni Aged About 26 Years R/o Bhawani Nagar,
Near Sneha Medical, Kota, P.S. Saraswati Nagar, District Raipur (C.G.)
(Details Incompletely Mentioned In Order Sheet) **...Applicant**

versus

State Of Chhattisgarh Through Station House Officer (S.H.O) P.S.- Cyber
Cell, Civil Lines, Dist. Raipur (C.G.) (Correct As Per Impugned Order)
... Non-applicant

For Applicants : Mr. Devershi Thakur, Advocate.

For Non-Applciant/State : Mr. S.S. Baghel, Government Advocate.

Hon'ble Mr. Ramesh Sinha, Chief Justice

Order on Board

19.01.2026

1. The applicant has preferred this First Bail Application under Section 483 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 for grant of regular bail, as he has been arrested in connection with Crime No. 44/2025, registered at Police Station - Civil Lines, District – Raipur (C.G.) for the offence punishable under Sections 317(2), 317(4) , 317(5),111, 3(5), of the BNS.
2. Case of the prosecution, the brief facts of the matter, an information



was received through the cyber crime reporting portal that 104 bank accounts has been fraudulently opened in Utkarsh Small Finance Bank, Civil Lines Branch Raipur and were being used for receiving proceeds of cyber fraud. Acting on directions from the police headquarters, a report regarding the incident was forwarded to police station civil lines, Raipur, where an FIR was registered against all 104 account holders, including the present applicant for commission of aforesaid offence punishable under section 111, 3(5), 317(2), 317(4) and 317(5) of B.N.S.

3. Learned counsel for the applicant submits that the applicants have been falsely implicated in the case. It is further submitted that a similarly situated co-accused, namely Harmeet Singh @Yashmit, Saurabh Pal and Tanishq Singh Bhatia and Shubham Singh Thakur, have already been enlarged on bail by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in ***Special Leave to Appeal (Crl.) Nos. 15006/2025, 12849/2025, 15613/2025 and 17452/2025*** vide order dated ***19.11.2025***, respectively, and on the same ground the co-accused namely Om Arya has been granted bail by this Court vide order dated 27.11.2025 passed in MCRC Nos. 9388/2025, and other co-accused have also been granted bail by this Court. In view of the principle of parity, learned counsel prays that the applicant may also be enlarged on bail.
4. On the other hand, learned State counsel opposes the bail application and submits that the charge-sheet has been filed in the case, however, he could not dispute the fact that the co-accused have been granted bail by the Hon'ble Supreme Court and by this Court.
5. I have heard learned counsel for the parties and perused all of the



documents available on record.

6. Taking into consideration the facts and circumstances of the case, nature and gravity of allegation levelled against the applicant and the fact that the charge-sheet has been filed against the applicant, and further the fact that a similarly situated co-accused, namely Harmeet Singh @Yashmit, Saurabh Pal and Tanishq Singh Bhatia and Shubham Singh Thakur, have already been enlarged on bail by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in ***Special Leave to Appeal (Crl.) Nos. 15006/2025, 12849/2025, 15613/2025 and 17452/2025*** vide order dated **19.11.2025**, respectively, and on the same ground the co-accused namely Om Arya has been granted bail by this Court vide order dated 27.11.2025 passed in MCRC Nos. 9388/2025, and other co-accused have also been granted bail by this Court, hence this Court is of the considered view that, on the ground of parity, the present applicant also deserves to be released on bail.
7. Let applicant, **Shani Soni**, involved in Crime No. 44/2025, registered at Police Station - Civil Lines, District – Raipur (C.G.) for the offence punishable under Sections 317(2), 317(4) , 317(5), 111, 3(5), of the BNS, be released on bail on his furnishing **a personal bond** with **two local sureties** in the like sum to the satisfaction of the Court concerned with the following conditions:-
 - (i) The applicant shall file an undertaking to the effect that he shall not seek any adjournment on the dates fixed for evidence when the witnesses are present in court. In case of default of this condition, it shall be open for the trial court to treat it as abuse of liberty of bail and pass orders in accordance with law.



2026:CGHC:3019

(ii) The applicant shall remain present before the trial court on each date fixed, either personally or through his counsel. In case of his absence, without sufficient cause, the trial court may proceed against him under Section 269 of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita.

(iii) In case, the applicant misuses the liberty of bail during trial and in order to secure his presence, proclamation under Section 84 of BNSS. is issued and the applicant fails to appear before the court on the date fixed in such proclamation, then, the trial court shall initiate proceedings against him, in accordance with law, under Section 209 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita.

(iv) The applicant shall remain present, in person, before the trial court on the dates fixed for (i) opening of the case, (ii) framing of charge and (iii) recording of statement under Section 351 of BNSS. If in the opinion of the trial court absence of the applicant is deliberate or without sufficient cause, then it shall be open for the trial court to treat such default as abuse of liberty of bail and proceed against him in accordance with law.

8. Office is directed to send a certified copy of this order to the trial Court concerned for necessary information and compliance forthwith.

**Sd/-
(Ramesh Sinha)
Chief Justice**