

**HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH AT BILASPUR****CRMP No. 1536 of 2026****Rita Singh *versus* State of Chhattisgarh & Another****Order Sheet**

18/06/2026	Heard Mr. Ankit Pandey, learned counsel for the petitioner. Also heard Mr. Ashish Shukla, learned Additional Advocate General, appearing for the State/respondent No. 1. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the petitioner, a serving Woman Constable posted at Police Lines, Durg, herself was a victim of a job recruitment fraud perpetrated by Ankit Singh and Nutan Kumar Chauhan, who had collected money from several persons, including respondent No. 2, on the false assurance of securing Government employment. It is submitted that the petitioner herself lodged FIR bearing Crime No. 413/2022 at Police
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Station Chhawani against the aforesaid persons. Upon completion of investigation, charge-sheet was filed and the principal accused persons were ultimately convicted vide judgment dated 26.05.2025.

It is further submitted by the learned counsel, appearing for the petitioner that despite being fully aware of the aforesaid proceedings, respondent No.2 filed an application under Section 156(3) Cr.P.C. suppressing the material fact of the earlier FIR, investigation and conviction of the principal offenders. Even the police report placed before the learned Magistrate disclosed that the money collected from the victims had been handed over to Ankit Singh and Nutan Kumar Chauhan and that they had already been prosecuted. Nevertheless, the learned Judicial Magistrate First Class, Durg, vide order dated 31.01.2026, directed registration of a fresh FIR against the petitioner, pursuant to which Crime No. 229/2026 dated 15.04.2026 came to be registered at Police Station Chhawani, District Durg.

Learned counsel for the petitioner further contended that the impugned FIR arises out of the very same transaction which was the subject matter of Crime No. 413/2022 and culminated in conviction of the principal offenders. It is contended that the petitioner is the original informant and victim of the fraud and not a beneficiary thereof. The petitioner has also been granted anticipatory bail in connection with the impugned FIR. Placing reliance upon the decisions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in ***State of Haryana v. Bhajan Lal, 1992 Supp (1) SCC 335*** and ***T.T. Antony v. State of Kerala, (2001) 6 SCC 181***, learned counsel for the petitioner submits that continuation of the impugned proceedings amounts to abuse of the process of law and the same deserve to be quashed in exercise of powers under Section 528 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023.

Considering the aforesaid submissions and upon perusal of the material available on record, this Court finds that the matter requires consideration.

Accordingly, issue notice to the respondents.

Learned State counsel accepts notice on behalf of respondent No. 1. Hence, issuance of notice to respondent No. 1 is dispensed with.

Process fee be paid within one week for issuance of notice to respondent No. 2 by speed post.

Notice be made returnable within four weeks.

Learned State counsel as well as respondent No. 2 are granted two weeks' time from the date of service of notice to file their respective reply-affidavits. Thereafter, learned counsel for the petitioner shall have two weeks' time to file rejoinder-affidavit(s), if any.

List this matter thereafter.

Sd/-
(Ravindra Kumar Agrawal)
Judge

Sd/-
(Ramesh Sinha)
Chief Justice