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* **IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI**

+ W.P.(CRL) 997/2026, CRL.M.A. 9410/2026

RAHUL CHAUHAN

.....Petitioner

Through: Mr. Ayush Dutt Tripathi, Advocate.

versus

STATE NCT OF DELHI & ORS.

.....Respondents

Through: Mr. Sangeet Sibou, Mr. Aniket Kumar Singh and Mr. Priyanshu Raj Singh, Advocates.

SI Shamsheer Singh, in-person *via* video-conferencing.

Mr. Sanjay Lao, SC for the State with Mr. Aryan Sachdeva and Mr. Abhinav Kr. Arya, Advocates

Mr. Sanjeev Bhandari, ASC for the State with Mr. Arjit Sharma and Ms. Sakshi Jha, Advocates.

Inspector Mahendra Pratap Singh.

I.O. Shamsheer Singh

CORAM:

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ANUP JAIRAM BHAMBHANI

ORDER

27.03.2026

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The present matter has been received by way of supplementary listing, having been mentioned to Hon'ble the Chief Justice.

2. By way of the present petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India read with Section 528 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita 2023, the petitioner *inter alia* seeks directions to respondent No. 2 to conduct a fair and impartial departmental enquiry against the police officials involved in the alleged illegal detention and custodial death, within the precincts of P.S.: Pul Prahladpur, New



Delhi on 23.02.2026, of one Shamsheer Singh, who was the father of the petitioner.

3. Learned counsel appearing for the petitioner submits, that on 23.02.2026, the petitioner and his father were taken to P.S.: Pul Prahladpur, New Delhi in relation to an ongoing property dispute between them and their family members and other relatives. It is stated that thereafter, the petitioner and his father were taken to a separate room in the police station; and his father was brutally assaulted by certain police officials of the said police station, who are named in paras 18 and 19 of the petition. It is alleged that the petitioner's father was later taken to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi; where he was declared "brought dead".
4. Learned counsel submits, that a complaint dated 02.03.2026 sent to the concerned Deputy Commissioner of Police in this regard has remained unanswered and unaddressed till date.
5. Learned counsel submits, that urgent directions are required to preserve the CCTV footage of P.S.: Pul Prahladpur for 23.03.2026 *i.e.*, the date when the incident took place. Learned counsel further submits, that since the incident dated 23.02.2026 was a sequel to what had transpired in the same police station on 11.02.2026, CCTV footage of the said police station for 11.02.2026 should also be preserved.
6. Learned counsel submits, that FIR No. 44/2026 dated 24.02.2026 registered under sections 105/3(5) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita 2023 at P.S.: Pul Prahladpur, New Delhi in relation to the incident is being investigated by one SI Shamsheer Singh *from the same police*



station, despite the fact that it is the petitioner's allegation that 05 police officers from that very police station (as named in para 18 and 19 of the petition), had brutally beaten-up his father and are therefore responsible for the father's death.

7. Considering the grave nature of the allegations made, it is directed that the SHO P.S.: Pul Prahladpur, New Delhi as well as SI Shamsheer Singh, the Investigating Officer ('I.O.') of the matter, be called to remain present before this court *at 02:30 p.m. today*, alongwith the case file of the matter and CCTV footage dated 11.02.2026 and 23.02.2026 from P.S.: Pul Prahladpur, New Delhi.

ANUP JAIRAM BHAMBHANI, J

MARCH 27, 2026

V.Rawat

At 02:30 p.m.

8. Pursuant to the directions issued in the forenoon session, Inspector Mahendra Pratap Singh, SHO P.S.: Pul Prahladpur, New Delhi is present in court alongwith the I.O. SI Shamsheer Singh.
9. Upon being queried as to the status of the CCTV footage of the police station for 11.02.2026 and 23.02.2026, the SHO has stated the following, which has been paraphrased by the court:
 - a. Insofar as the CCTV footage of 11.02.2026 is concerned, the SHO states that he needs to inquire as to whether the CCTV footage of the police station for the said date, is available.
 - b. Insofar as the CCTV footage of 23.02.2026 is concerned, the SHO states that the CCTV system of the *entire* police station



was not functional on 22.02.2026, 23.02.2026 and 24.02.2026, since the main wire had been damaged due to the monkey menace in the area. He states that 03 DD Entries for *each* of the said dates have been recorded by them, informing the CCTV maintenance agency, about the breakdown of the CCTV system.

- c. The SHO however states, that a certain video-footage recorded by one of his police officers, showing their engagement with the deceased, is available.
 - d. The SHO further states, that there is some other video-footage from outside the petitioner's house, from where the parties were brought to the police station, which also he would want to produce before the court.
 - e. The SHO has also confirmed that the officers named in paras 18 and 19 of the petition were posted under him at P.S.: Pul Prahladpur on the relevant dates.
- 10. The SHO is directed to file an affidavit in terms of his statement recorded above, before the next date.
 - 11. In view of the directions that this court proposes to pass, the SHO is directed to place all other relevant video-footage before the Investigating Officer who would be investigating the matter.
 - 12. As directed by the order made in the forenoon, SI Shamsheer Singh, who is the I.O. in the matter, has also produced the case file before this court.
 - 13. Issue notice.



14. Mr. Sanjay Lao, learned Standing Counsel appears for the State; accepts notice; and seeks time to file status report.
15. On a *prima-facie* view of the matter, and in light of what has been recorded above, in the interests of justice and in order to obviate any conflict or allegations that may come to be made subsequently, the investigation of case FIR No. 44/2026 dated 24.02.2026 registered under sections 105/3(5) BNS at P.S.: Pul Prahladpur, New Delhi is *transferred from* P.S.: Pul Prahladpur, New Delhi *to* P.S.: Crime Branch, New Delhi with a direction to the Joint Commissioner of Police (Crime), Delhi Police to appoint an appropriate investigating officer of *at least* the rank of an ACP to investigate the matter, under the direct supervision of the Joint Commissioner (Crime).
16. The case file handed-up by I.O. Shamsheer Singh is being retained by this court in sealed cover, with a direction to the Registry to transmit the file directly to the Joint Commissioner (Crime), Delhi Police.
17. It is further directed that any other evidence or material collected by, or available with, the I.O. SI Shamsheer Singh in the course of investigation, including viscera samples of the deceased, be also handed-over to the I.O. to be appointed by P.S.: Crime Branch, New Delhi.
18. Let status report be filed by the Joint Commissioner (Crime) in relation to the status of investigation in the matter *positively* before the next date; with copies to the opposing counsel.
19. Needless to add, the Joint Commissioner (Crime) shall ensure that the investigation proceeds *professionally* and *expeditiously*.
20. Re-notify on 05th May 2026.



21. Let a copy of this order be forwarded by the Registry to the Joint Commissioner (Crime) *forthwith*.
22. Let a copy of this order be given *dasti* under signatures of the Court Master.

ANUP JAIRAM BHAMBHANI, J

MARCH 27, 2026/ak