

IN THE HIGH COURT FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA
AT HYDERABAD

WEDNESDAY, THE TWENTY THIRD DAY OF APRIL
TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY FIVE

PRESENT

THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE J SREENIVAS RAO

CRIMINAL PETITION NO: 4696 OF 2025

Between:

1. Geevarghese George, S/o. T.George, Age 41 years, Occ.Pastor, Bethany Ashram, Nalanchira, Thiruvananthapuram, Nalanchira, Kerala 695 015 (A-1)
2. Haladhar Mangali (Sanu), S/o Banasingh Mangali, Age 25 years, Occ. Cook Jharigaon, Barandipara, Nabarangapur, Banuaguda, Odisha 764076 (A-2)
3. Siju Mathew, S/o K. C. Mathai, Age 41 years, Occ. Pastor, Bethany Ashram, Mylapra town, Mylapra, Pathanamthitta - 689 671 Kerala (A-3)
4. Margaret Charangattu Chinnappan, D/o.Chinnappan, Daughters of Divine Zeal, Vennala, Age 46 years, Occ. Sister N/o.Vennela P.O., Ernakulam District, Kerala 682 028 (A-4)
5. Kochuthresia (Shiny), D/o. Dominic, Daughters of Divine Zeal Vennala, Age 40 years, Occ. Sister N/o. Santhinagar, Vennala, Ernakulam, Kerala - 682028(A-5)
6. Felisha Linet Srampical Devassy, Age 45 years, Occ. Sister Daughters of Divine Zeal Vennala, N/o. Santhinagar, Vennala, Ernakulam, Kerala - 682028 (A-6)
7. Sajana George, Age 40 years, Occ. Sister, Daughters of Divine Zeal Vennala, N/o. Santhinagar, Vennala, Ernakulam, Kerala 682028 (A-7)
8. John Christopher C.S., S/o.Chellaian, Age 53 years, Occ. Pastor N/o.4/146, C.S. Bhavan, Manali, Choozhal, Palavilal P.O., Kollenchde, kanniyakumari, Tamil Nadu 629 160 (A-8)

...Petitioners/Accused No. 1 to 8

AND

State of Telangana, Rep. by the Public Prosecutor, High Court for the State of Telangana, At Hyderabad.

...Respondent/Complainant

Petition under Section 482 of BNSS praying that in the circumstances stated in the Memorandum of Grounds of Criminal Petition, the High Court may be pleased to grant Anticipatory Bail to the Petitioners/A1 to 8 in the event of their arrest in connection with FIR.No.101/2025 of P.S. Cherlapalli, Rachakonda registered for the offences under Sec.352, 351(2), 74, 75, 78, 127(2), 79, 324(2) BNSS, 11 r/w.12 POGSO Act, 2012.

This Petition coming on for hearing, upon perusing the Memorandum of Grounds of Criminal Petition and upon hearing the arguments of Mr. Rama Rao Emmaneni representing Mr. B. John Dinakar, Advocate for the Petitioners and the Mr. Syed Yasar Mamoon, Additional Public Prosecutor on behalf of the Respondent.

The Court made the following: ORDER

THE HONOURBLE SRI JUSTICE J. SREENIVAS RAO

CRIMINAL PETITION No. 4696 of 2025

ORDER:

This Criminal Petition is filed under Section 482 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, (BNSS) by the petitioners/accused Nos.1 to 8 seeking anticipatory bail in connection with Crime No.101 of 2025 of Cherlpally Police Station, Rachakonda, registered for the offences under Sections 352, 351(2), 74, 75, 78, 127(2), 79 and, 324(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (BNS) and Section 11 read with 12 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012.

2. Heard Mr. Rama Rao Emmaneni, learned counsel representing Mr. B. John Dinakar, learned counsel for the petitioners, Mr. Syed Yasar Mamoon, learned Additional Public Prosecutor appearing for the respondent State.

3. During the course of hearing, it is brought to the notice of this Court that the offences levelled against the petitioners are punishable with an imprisonment of less than seven years.

4. In view of the same and in view of the reply submitted by the Bethany Mission Centre of Bethany Navajeevan Province pursuant to the notice issued under Section 41-A of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (for short, 'the Cr.P.C.'), without going into the merits of the case, this Court deems it appropriate to direct the petitioners to appear before the Investigating Officer on or before 30.04.2025 and on

such surrender, the Investigation Officer to scrupulously follow the procedure contemplated under Section 35(3) of the BNSS/Section 41-A of the Cr.P.C. and the guidelines issued by the Apex Court in **Arnesh Kumar Vs. State of Bihar**¹.

5. It is made clear that the petitioners shall cooperate with the Investigation Officer for the investigation and make themselves available to him as and when required and also provide the information/documents as sought by him to conclude the investigation.

6. If the petitioners fail to cooperate with the Investigation Officer for investigation, the Investigation Officer is at liberty to take action against them in accordance with law.

7. Subject to the above directions, the Criminal Petition is disposed of. No costs.

Miscellaneous applications, pending if any, shall stand closed.

1 (2014) 8 SCC 273

//TRUE COPY//

SD/- K AMMAJI
DEPUTY REGISTRAR

SECTION OFFICER

To,

1. The II Additional Junior Civil Judge Cum, II Additional Judicial Magistrate of first Class at Malkajgiri.
2. The Station House Officer, Cherlapally Police Station, Rachakonda District.
3. Two CCs to the Public Prosecutor, State of Telangana, High Court Buildings, at Hyderabad (OUT)
4. One CC to Sri. Burgula John Dinakar, Advocate [OPUC]
5. Two CD Copies

DL

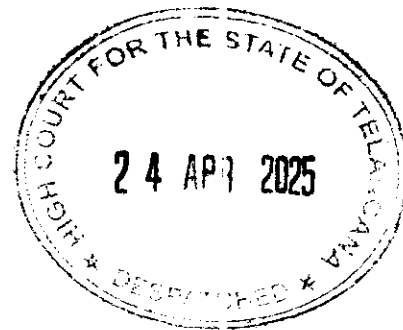


HIGH COURT

DATED:23/04/2025

ORDER

CRLP.No.4696 of 2025



CRIMINAL PETITION IS DISPOSED OF

8

RMS

24/4/2025