(SHOW CAUSE NOTICE BEFORE ADMISSION)
HIGH COURT FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA
AT HYDERABAD

MONDAY, THE THIRTEENTH DAY OF APRIL
TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY SIX

:PRESENT:
THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE E.V. VENUGOPAL
WP NO: 11211 OF 2026

Between

Ayush Gupta, S/o Girdhar Gopal.

Petitioner

AND

1. State of Telangana, Rep. by its Principal Secretary, Home Department, Secretariat, Hyderabad, Telangana.

2. The Superintendent of Police, Telangana State Cyber Security Bureau, Hyderabad.

3. The Inspector of Police, Jadcherla Police Station, Mahabubnagar District, Telangana.

4. HDFC Bank Ltd., Agra Cantonment Branch, Uttar Pradesh.

5. Airtel Payments Bank Ltd., Through its Authorized Officer.

Respondents

WHEREAS the Petitioner above named through his Advocate SRI MERUGU GOUTHAM KRISHNA presented this Petition under Article 226 of the Constitution of India praying that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed therewith, the High Court may be pleased to issue a Writ of Mandamus or any other appropriate Writ, Order or Direction, declaring the action of the Respondents in freezing the Petitioners bank accounts without passing any speaking order and without considering the Petitioners representations dated 06/06/2024 and 10/06/2024 as illegal, arbitrary, and in violation of Articles 14 and 21 of the Constitution of India, and consequently direct the Respondents to immediately defreeze the Petitioners HDFC Bank Account No. 50100399739108 and Airtel Payments Bank Account No.8533018532, or in the alternative, restrict the freeze strictly to the disputed amount of 2060.

AND WHEREAS the High Court upon perusing the petition and affidavit filed herein and upon hearing the arguments of Sri. MERUGU GOUTHAM KRISHNA Advocate for the Petitioner, GP FOR HOME, for the respondent Nos. 1 to 3, directed issue of notice to the Respondent Nos. 4 & 5, herein to show cause as to why this WRIT PETITION should not be admitted.

You viz:

1. HDFC Bank Ltd., Agra Cantonment Branch, Uttar Pradesh.
2. The Authorized Officer, Airtel Payments Bank Ltd.

are directed to show cause on or before 22.06.2026 to which date the case stands posted as to why in the circumstances set out in the petition and the affidavit filed therewith (copy enclosed) this WRIT PETITION should not be admitted.

I.A. NO: 1 OF 2026

Petition under Section 151 of C.P.C praying that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed in support of the writ petition, the High Court may be pleased to direct the Respondents to forthwith allow the Petitioner to operate his HDFC Bank Account No. 50100399739108 and Airtel Payments Bank Account No. 8533018532, by restricting the debit freeze strictly to the disputed amount of 2060, pending disposal of WP No 11211 of 2026, on the file of the High Court.

The Court made the following:

ORDER

Notice before admission.

Mr. M.Srinivas, learned Assistant Government Pleader for Home, takes notice for respondent Nos.1 to 3, waives further notice and seeks time to get instructions.

Learned counsel for the petitioner is permitted to take out personal notice to respondent Nos.4 and 5 by Speed Post with Acknowledgment Due and file proof of service before the Registry by the next date of listing.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that without issuing any notice to the petitioner and without affording any opportunity of hearing, the petitioner's back account bearing Account No.50100399739108 has been marked as disputed by respondent No.3. He further submits that as per the communication issued, the disputed amount is only Rs.2,060/-. The petitioner himself is a victim, having invested money through website

(https://globalpgim.top) and the transaction alleged to have been credited into the account of the petitioner pertains only to the said disputed amount of Rs.2,060/-. He further submits that in respect of the Airtel Payments Bank Account bearing No.8533018532 maintained before respondent No.4, the disputed amount is only Rs.2,060/- However, instead of freezing the said amount, the petitioner's right to operate the account was curtailed. The petitioner is a student and is facing severe hardship due to such action.

Learned Assistant Government Pleader for Home, upon furnishing written instructions, submits that a complaint was lodged on 01.03.2024 by the *de facto* complainant namely one Mr.Kodavath Mallesh, wherein it was stated that on 01.03.2024, he received a link to a "WAKE App" on his WhatsApp number and upon enrolling in the said application, remitted amounts in multiple transactions totaling to Rs.2,99,580/- into bank accounts maintained with Canara Bank, South Indian Bank and Bank of India. It is further submitted that a portion of the said amount was traced to accounts maintained by respondent Nos.4 and 5, in the name of the petitioner. Accordingly, after due enquiry, a case was registered vide FIR No.267 of 2024 for the offences punishable under Section 420 of IPC and Section 66-D of the Information Technology Act, 2000. It is also submitted that upon receipt of the complaint through the Cyber Crime Helpline (1930) bearing acknowledgment No.33703240015172, appropriate action was taken and in order to secure the interest of *de facto* complainant, communication was addressed to respondent Nos.4 and 5 to freeze the accounts, as the matter is under investigation.

This matter requires detailed examination and the facts can be ascertained only upon filing written instructions/counter by the official respondents.

Since the unofficial respondent was not impleaded as a party respondent, learned counsel for the petitioner is directed to take steps to implead the said party.

Prima facie, it appears that the petitioner's accounts maintained with respondent Nos.4 and 5 have been frozen by respondent No.3. Considering

the allegation that an amount of Rs.2,99,580/-was deposited into the account of the petitioner, respondent Nos.4 and 5 are directed to defreeze the said account, subject to maintaining a lien of Rs.2,99,580/- in the account of the petitioner and permit the petitioner to operate his bank account being maintained with respondent No.4, unless any further restriction is imposed by the competent authorities/Judicial Orders.

List on 22.06.2026.

SD/- B G VIJAYANTHI

ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

//TRUE COPY//

SECTION OFFICER

To,

1. The Principal Secretary, Home Department, Secretariat, State of Telangana, Secretariat, Hyderabad, Telangana.
2. The Superintendent of Police, Telangana State Cyber Security Bureau, Hyderabad.
3. The Inspector of Police, Jadcherla Police Station, Mahabubnagar District, Telangana.[Addressees 1 to 3 by SPAD]
4. HDFC Bank Ltd., Agra Cantonment Branch, Uttar Pradesh.
5. The Authorized Officer, Airtel Payments Bank Ltd [Addressees 4 & 5 by SPAD-along with a copy of petition and affidavit]
6. One CC to Sri. MERUGU GOUTHAM KRISHNA Advocate [OPUC]
7. Two CCs to GP FOR HOME, High Court for the State of Telangana, at Hyderabad [OUT]
8. One spare copy

HIGH COURT

EVV, J

DATED: 13-04-2026

List on 22.06.2026

NOTICE BEFORE ADMISSION

WP.No.11211 of 2026

DIRECTION

HIGH COURT FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA
SPECIAL CELL
22 APR 2026
DESPATCHED