

IN THE HIGH COURT FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA AT HYDERABAD

TUESDAY, THE TWENTY THIRD DAY OF SEPTEMBER

TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY FIVE

:PRESENT:**THE HONOURABLE SMT JUSTICE JUVVADI SRIDEVI****IA No. 1 OF 2025****IN****CRLRC NO: 688 OF 2025****Between:**

Peddabavi Raghu, S/o.Krushnaiah (A-4)

...Petitioner/Accused

(Petitioner in CRLRC 688 OF 2025

on the file of High Court)

AND

1. The State of Telangana, Rep. by its Public Prosecutor, High Court for the State of Telangana, at Hyderabad.

2. Gajula Narayana, S/o. Ashanna, Occ Mansion, R/o. Desaipalli, H/o.Nancherla village, Gandweed mandal, Ranga Reddy District.

...Respondent/complainant

(Respondents in-do-)

Counsel for the Petitioner**: Sri T.Pradyumna Kumar Reddy, Senior
Counsel rep. Sri T S Anirudh Reddy****Counsel for the Respondent No.1 : Sri M.Ramachandra Reddy, Additional
Public Prosecutor**

Petition under Section 528 of B.N.S.S. praying that in the circumstances stated in the grounds filed in support of the Criminal petition, the High Court may be pleased to stay all further proceedings including appearance of the petitioner in S. C. No.3 of 2020 on the file of I Addl. District and Sessions Judge-cum- special Sessions Judge for Fast Tracking the cases relating to Atrocities against Women, Vikarabad District, pending disposal of CRLRC No.688 of 2025, on the file of the High Court.

The Court made the following

ORDER

This Interlocutory Application is filed seeking stay of all further proceedings including appearance of the petitioner-accused No.4 in S.C.No.3 of 2020 on the file of learned I Additional District and Sessions Judge-cum-Special Sessions Judge for Fast Tracking the Cases Relating to Atrocities against Women, Vikarabad District, registered for the offence under Section 304-B r/w 34 of IPC.

Heard Sri T.Pradyumna Kumar Reddy, learned Senior Counsel representing Sri T.S.Anirudh Reddy, learned counsel for petitioner and Sri M.Ramachandra Reddy, learned Additional Public Prosecutor appearing for respondent No.1-State and perused the record.

The learned Senior Counsel contended that the petitioner/Accused No.4 is a distant relative of Accused No.1, as the grandfather of Accused No.1 and the grandfather of the petitioner are brothers. He further submitted that the petitioner has been working as a Police Constable since 2009 and has been posted at Mahammadabad Police Station, Gandeed Mandal, Mahabubnagar District. It was also submitted that the petitioner did not even attend the wedding of the deceased and Accused No.1. Learned Senior Counsel further submitted that, as per the statement of LW2 (mother of the deceased) recorded under Section 161 Cr.P.C., she only requested Accused Nos.1 to 3 to take good care of the deceased when she visited the marital home at Chakalpally village from Mumbai. This clearly establishes that the petitioner/Accused No.4 was not residing in the same marital home but was residing separately near Mahammadabad Police Station due to his employment. He further submitted that Accused No.1 committed suicide on 02.05.2016, i.e., almost three months after the death of the deceased. Hence, the learned Senior Counsel while praying for grant of stay of all further proceedings, relied upon a decision of Hon'ble Supreme Court in *State of Punjab vs. Gurmeet Singh*¹ wherein it was held that:

¹ (2014) 9 SCC 632

"8. Admittedly, the respondent is not the husband of the woman who died and, therefore, the question which falls for determination is as to whether he comes within the ambit of "any relative of her husband". The expression "relative" has not been defined in IPC. The provision with which we are concerned is a penal provision which deserves strict construction. It is well settled that when the words of a statute are not defined, it has to be understood in their natural, ordinary or popular sense. For this purpose, it shall be permissible to refer to dictionaries to find out the general sense in which the word is understood in common parlance. In Ramanatha Aiyar's Advanced Law Lexicon (Vol.4, 3^d Edn), the word "relative" means any person related by blood, marriage or adoption. A large number of dictionaries give this word "relative", in context, the same meaning.

On the other hand, the learned Additional Public Prosecutor submitted that there are specific allegations against the petitioner-accused No.4 and prayed to dismiss the application.

On perusal of the material placed on record, it is apparent that there is no prima facie evidence to show that the petitioner/Accused No.4 was residing with the deceased and Accused No.1. It appears that the petitioner/Accused No.4 is only a distant relative and has been working as a Police Constable since 2009 at Mahammadabad Police Station, Gandeed Mandal, Mahabubnagar District.

Having regard to the facts and circumstances of the case including the settled principle of law laid down in the above referred decision, and upon consideration of the submissions made by the learned counsel for the petitioner, this Court is of the considered view that the matter requires detailed examination.

In the said circumstances, there shall be interim stay of all further proceedings including appearance of the petitioner-accused No.4 in S.C.No.3 of 2020 on the file of learned I Additional District and Sessions

Judge-cum-Special Sessions Judge for Fast Tracking the Cases relating to Atrocities against Women, Vikarabad District, till 04.11.2025.

//TRUE COPY//

**SD/- A. JAYASREE
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR**


SECTION OFFICER

To,

1. The I Additional District and Sessions Judge-cum-Special Sessions Judge for Fast Tracking the Cases relating to Atrocities against Women, Vikarabad District
2. The Station House Officer, Police Station Kulkacherla, Vikarabad
3. Gajula Narayana, S/o. Ashanna, Occ Mansion, R/o. Desaipalli, H/o. Nancherla village, Gandweed mandal, Ranga Reddy District.(By RPAD)
4. Two CCs to Public Prosecutor, High Court for the State of Telangana, Hyderabad (OUT)
5. One CC to SRI T S ANIRUDH REDDY Advocate [OPUC]
6. One spare copy

HIGH COURT

JS,J

DATED:23/09/2025



ORDER

**IA No.1 of 2025
In
CRLRC.No.688 of 2025**

INTERIM STAY