

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JHARKHAND, RANCHI

B.A. No. 1102 of 2026

Kameshwar Ram, aged about 62 years, son of Raghubir Ram, resident of village Salempur, P.O. Haider Nagar, P.S. Haider Nagar, District-Palamau at present residing at village Adhaur, Near Ashram Road, Sudna, P.O. Sudna, P.S. Town Thana, Town Daltonganj, District-Palamau

..... Petitioner

-- Versus --

Central Bureau of Investigation

..... Opposite Party

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY KUMAR DWIVEDI

For the Petitioner :- Mr. Saurabh Shekhar, Advocate
Mr. Anjani Kumar, Advocate
Mr. Anurag Kumar, Advocate
Mr. Dhruv Kumar, Advocate

For the C.B.I. : Mr. Prashant Pallav, A.S.G.I

03/08.05.2026 :- Heard learned counsel for the petitioner and learned counsel for the C.B.I.

2. The petitioner is seeking regular bail in connection with Case No. R.C. 01(A)/2024-R corresponding to R.C. Case No. 05(S)/2022-R registered under sections 120(B) read with section 409, 420, 467, 468, 471 of I.P.C. and cognizance has been taken under section 120B read with sections 409, 467, 471, 477A and 201 of I.P.C and section 13(2) read with section 13(1) (c) and 13(d) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 and section 7 and Section 13(1) (a) of Prevention of Corruption Act pending in the Court of learned A.J.C.-I-cum-Special Judge, C.B.I.

3. Mr. Saurabh Shekhar, learned counsel appearing for the petitioner submits that on merit twice the regular bail of the petitioner has been rejected and thereafter the petitioner moved before the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Special Leave to Appeal

(Criminal) No. 10678 of 2024 against the order dated 14.06.2024 passed in B.A. No. 4722 of 2023 which was dismissed by order dated 14.06.2024 by the Hon'ble Supreme Court with liberty to the petitioner to file afresh regular bail application if trial is delayed and thereafter the petitioner has again filed B.A. No. 1557 of 2025 which has been rejected by this Court by order dated 20.08.2025. He next submits that petitioner is already in jail custody since 24.08.2021 and in that way he has remained in custody for four years and nine months. He further submits that chargesheet has already been submitted and petitioner has already deposited Rs. 85,02,945/- however, allegations are made that petitioner and others accused persons have defalcated a sum of Rs.2,10,41,382/-. He further submits that in the light of order dated 11.03.2026 the learned counsel for the C.B.I has filed supplementary counter affidavit on instruction wherein it has been disclosed that two years time will consume in completion of trial. He next submits that the petitioner is suffering from various ailment including high blood pressure and his elder son namely, Sanjay Kumar had committed suicide on 10.12.2020 and thereafter the petitioner is also mentally disturbed. Lastly, he submits that the petitioner will cooperate in trial and on any condition the petitioner may kindly be released on regular bail.

4. Mr. Prashant Pallav, learned counsel for the C.B.I submits that petitioner is himself responsible for the said delay which has been noted by this Court in order dated 20.08.2025 in

B.A. No. 1557. He next submits that now chargesheet has been submitted and he has taken instruction and filed supplementary counter affidavit wherein para 3 it is stated that after undertaking an expeditious trial, a minimum period of at least 02 years up to March, 2028 will be required to examine all the witnesses and further it has been disclosed that out of 181 witnesses, 03 witnesses have been examined on 02.12.2025, 25.02.2026 and 30.03.2026. He submits that allegation is heinous against the petitioner and in view of that the regular bail of the petitioner may kindly be rejected.

5. The Court is conscious of the fact as heinous allegation is made against the petitioner and other accused persons of defalcation of Rs.2,10,41,382/-. Admittedly, thrice regular bail of the petitioner has been rejected. In view of observation made by the Hon'ble Supreme Court the regular bail of the petitioner has been considered and rejected. However, the petitioner is in custody since 24.08.2021 and he has remained in jail custody for four years and nine months and in the light of affidavit of the C.B.I if the trial will proceed expeditiously it will be concluded by March, 2028. Further the petitioner has deposited Rs. 85,02,945/-

6. In the attending facts and circumstances, I am inclined to grant regular bail to the petitioner.

7. Accordingly, the petitioner, above named, shall be released on regular bail, on furnishing bail bond of Rs.20,000/- (Rupees Twenty Thousand) with two sureties of the like amount

each, to the satisfaction of learned A.J.C.-I-cum-Special Judge, C.B.I in connection with Case No. R.C. 01(A)/2024-R corresponding to R.C. Case No. 05(S)/2022-R subject to conditions as follows:-

(a). The petitioner shall furnish his mobile number and photocopy of the Aadhar Card with an undertaking that he will not change his mobile number during the pendency of the case.

(b). The petitioner will not disturb or annoy the informant or witness related to this case in any manner during the pendency of the case.

(c).The petitioner shall appear before the trial court on each and every date of the trial.

(d). The petitioner shall not tamper with the evidence and shall not threaten the witnesses.

(e). Any such other conditions as the trial court deems fit other than the condition of requiring pre-deposit.

8. This bail application is disposed of. Pending I.A, if any, stands disposed of.

(Sanjay Kumar Dwivedi, J.)

Dt. 08.05.2026

Satyarthi/