



IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU

DATED THIS THE 26TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2026

BEFORE

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SHIVASHANKAR AMARANNAVAR

CRIMINAL PETITION NO. 16030 OF 2025
[(438(Cr.PC) / 482(BNSS))]

BETWEEN:

THAMMAIAH
S/O. ANNAJI KARI GOWDA,
AGED ABOUT 62 YEARS,
R/AT: NO.42, 1ST CROSS,
SHARAVATHI NAGAR, NAGARBHAVI,
BENGALURU - 560 072.

...PETITIONER

(BY SRI. M.T. NANAIAH, SENIOR COUNSEL ALONG WITH
SRI. M.R.C. MANOHAR, ADVOCATE)

AND:

STATE BY
HALASURGATE P.S.,
BENGALURU CITY,
REP. BY STATE PUBLIC PROSECUTOR,
HIGH COURT COMPLEX,
BENGALURU - 560 001.

...RESPONDENT

(BY SRI. HARISH GANAPATHY, HCGP)

THIS CRL.P IS FILED UNDER SECTION 438 CR.PC (FILED
U/S 482 BNSS) PRAYING TO GRANT AN ORDER OF
ANTICIPATORY BAIL AND DIRECT THE RESPONDENT POLICE /
HALASURGATE POLICE STATION TO RELEASE THE PETITIONER
ON BAIL IN THE EVENT OF HIS ARREST IN CRIME





NO.134/2025, REGISTERED FOR OFFENCES PUNISHABLE UNDER SECTIONS 178, 179 AND 180 OF BNS, 2023 PENDING BEFORE THE XLVIII A.C.M., BENGALURU.

THIS PETITION COMING ON FOR ORDERS, THIS DAY, ORDER WAS MADE THEREIN AS UNDER:

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SHIVASHANKAR AMARANNAVAR

ORAL ORDER

This petition is filed under Section 482 of Bharatiya Nagrika Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 praying to grant anticipatory bail in Crime No.134/2025 of Halasurugate Police Station registered for offences punishable under Sections 178, 179 and 180 of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023.

2. Heard learned Senior Counsel for petitioner and learned High Court Government Pleader for respondent - State.

3. Learned Senior Counsel for petitioner would contend that, the petitioner has received notice dated 04.11.2025 from the PSI, Halasurugate Police station to



appear for investigation and therefore he apprehends his arrest. In the said notice it is alleged that accused Nos.4, 5 and 6 have given Rs.2,000/- currency notes to this petitioner and this petitioner is related to accused No.1 - Mallesh K. Accused Nos.4, 5 and 6 have been granted anticipatory bail by this Court in Criminal Petition No.17651/2025 and connected matter by order dated 20.02.2026. The petitioner is similarly placed to that of the other accused i.e., accused Nos.4, 5 and 6 who have been granted anticipatory bail. The petitioner is ready to cooperate with Investigating Officer in investigation and abide by any conditions to be imposed by this Court. With these, he prayed to allow the petition.

4. Per contra, learned High Court Government Pleader for respondent would contend that, the accused persons are getting Rs.2,000/- denomination currency notes of altered series number from accused Nos.1 to 3 and they are getting it exchanged with the RBI through accused No.7. What is the role of this petitioner is to be



ascertained as he is related to accused No.1 and his name has been mentioned in the statement of accused No.4 to 6. The petitioner is required for custodial interrogation. With these, he prayed for dismissal of the petition.

5. Having heard the learned counsels appearing for parties, the Court has perused the FIR, complaint and other materials placed on record.

6. This Court while considering the anticipatory bail petition of accused Nos.4, 5 and 6 in the order dated 20.02.2026 in Criminal Petition No.17651/2025 and connected matter, has observed as under:

"6. On perusal of the remand application dated 25.06.2025 of accused Nos.2 and 3, the allegation against petitioners -accused Nos.4 to 6 is that accused No.4 is Swamiji and accused Nos.5 and 6 are his assistants and they are getting the money from accused Nos.1 to 3 and making the rain of currency notes. Considering the said allegation, the petitioners were found possessing the said currency notes of Rs.2,000/-



denomination in which the series numbers have been altered. The offences alleged against petitioners are not punishable either with death or imprisonment for life. Earlier petitioners were arrested in Crime No.214/2025 and they have been granted bail by Magistrate Court. The petitioners have undertaken to co-operate with the police in the investigation and abide by any conditions to be imposed by this Court. Considering the above aspects, petitioners have made out case for grant of anticipatory bail with conditions."

7. The petitioner has received a notice dated 04.11.2025 from PSI, Halasurugate Police Station. In the said notice it is mentioned that accused Nos.4, 5 and 6 have stated in their statement that they gave Rs.2,000/- denomination currency notes to this petitioner and this petitioner is related to accused No.1 - Mallesh K. What is the exact role of this petitioner is required to be ascertained in the investigation. The offences alleged against the petitioner are not punishable either with death or imprisonment for life. The petitioner has undertaken to



cooperate with the Investigating Officer in investigation and abide by any conditions to be imposed by this Court.

8. Considering all the above aspects, the petitioner has made out a case for grant of anticipatory bail with conditions. In the result, the following;

ORDER

The Criminal Petition is ***allowed***. The petitioner is granted anticipatory bail in Crime No.134/2025 of Halasurugate Police Station and is ordered to be released on bail in the event of his arrest, subject to following conditions:

- i) The petitioner shall voluntarily appear before the Investigating Officer within 15 days from this day and execute bail bond for sum of Rs.1,00,000/- with one surety for the like sum to the satisfaction of Investigating Officer.*
- ii) The petitioner shall appear before the Investigating Officer whenever called for and cooperate for investigation.*



- iii) *The petitioner shall appear before Investigating Officer on every Sunday between 10 a.m., to 2.p.m., for a period of 2 months or till filing of the final report whichever is earlier.*
- iv) *The petitioner shall not directly or indirectly make an inducement, threat or promise to any person acquainted with the facts of the case so as to dissuade him from disclosing such a facts to the court or police officer or tamper with the evidence.*
- v) *In case of filing the charge sheet, the petitioner shall appear before the trial Court and cooperate for speedy disposal of the case.*

Sd/-
(SHIVASHANKAR AMARANNAVAR)
JUDGE