IN THE HIGH COURT OF GUJARAT AT AHMEDABAD

R/CRIMINAL MISC.APPLICATION NO. 8398 of 2024
(FOR SUCCESSIVE REGULAR BAIL - AFTER CHARGESHEET)

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RAMESHBHAI CHOTUBHAI PATEL
Versus
STATE OF GUJARAT
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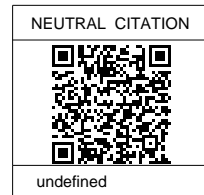Appearance:
MR N V RAVAL(11267) for the Applicant(s) No. 1
MR HARDIK SONI APP for the Respondent(s) No. 1
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CORAM:**HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE DIVYESH A. JOSHI**

Date : 09/05/2024

ORAL ORDER

1. Rule. Learned APP waives service of notice of rule for respondent — State of Gujarat.

2. The present application is filed under Section 439 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, for regular bail in connection with the FIR being C.R. No.11200010232089/2023 registered with the Valsad Town Police Station, Valsad for the offence punishable under Sections 199, 200, 406, 420, 465, 467, 468 and 471 of the Indian Penal Code.

3. Learned advocate for the applicant submitted that the so-called incident has taken place on 04.11.2023, for which, the FIR has been lodged on 04.11.2023 and the applicant has been arrested in connection with the same on 05.11.2023 and since then, he is in judicial custody. Learned advocate submitted that now the investigation is completed
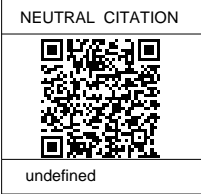
and after submission of the chargesheet, the present application is preferred. Learned advocate submitted that entire case of the prosecution hinges upon documentary evidence, which have been collected by the IO during the course of investigation and, hence, there is no question of tampering with the same. Learned advocate submitted that all the offences are exclusively triable by the Court of Magistrate. Learned advocate submitted that as per the case of the applicant, cousin brother of the applicant has made alteration in the documents and produced before the revenue authority, wherein the involvement of the present applicant is not at all there and the applicant has not received any monetary benefits. Learned advocate submitted that even the wife of the applicant has also made representation to the concerned police authority wherein entire sequence of incident of events is mentioned and as it was not decided, writ petition was filed, wherein direction came to be issued for deciding the said representation, however it has not been considered till date by the authority. It is, therefore, urged that considering the nature of the offence, the applicant may be enlarged on regular bail by imposing suitable conditions.

4. Learned APP for the respondent-State has opposed grant of regular bail looking to the nature and gravity of the offence. It is submitted that the role of the present applicant is clearly spelt out

from the papers of the chargesheet and, hence, the present application may not be entertained.

5. Learned advocates appearing on behalf of the respective parties do not press for further reasoned order.

6. I have heard the learned advocates appearing on behalf of the respective parties and perused the papers of the investigation and considered the allegations levelled against the applicant and the role played by the applicant. It is found out from the record that the present application is preferred after submission of the chargesheet and now the investigation is completed and the applicant is in jail since 05.11.2023. All the offences are exclusively triable by the Court of Magistrate. Entire case of the prosecution hinges upon documentary evidence, which have been collected by the IO during the course of investigation. I have considered the role attributed to the present applicant at the time of commission of crime. Therefore considering the above factual aspects, the present application deserves to be allowed.

7. This Court has also taken into consideration the law laid down by the Hon'ble Apex Court in the case of **Sanjay Chandra v. Central Bureau of Investigation,** reported in [2012] 1 SCC 40 as well as in case of **Satender Kumar Antil v. Central Bureau of Investigation & Anr.** reported in **(2022) 10 SCC 51.**

8. In the facts and circumstances of the case and considering the nature of the allegations made against the applicant in the FIR, without discussing the evidence in detail, *prima facie*, this Court is of the opinion that this is a fit case to exercise the discretion and enlarge the applicant on regular bail.

9. Hence, the present application is allowed. The applicant is ordered to be released on regular bail in connection with the FIR being C.R. No.11200010232089/2023 registered with the Valsad Town Police Station, Valsad on executing a personal bond of Rs.15,000/- (Rupees Fifteen Thousand only) with one surety of the like amount to the satisfaction of the trial Court and subject to the conditions that he shall;

    [a] not take undue advantage of liberty or misuse liberty;

    [b] not act in a manner injuries to the interest of the prosecution;

    [c] surrender passport, if any, to the concerned court within a week;

    [d] not leave the State of Gujarat without prior permission of the concerned court;

    [e] mark presence before the concerned Police Station on alternate Monday of every English calendar month for a period of six months between 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.;

    [f] furnish the present address of residence to the Investigating Officer and also to the

Court at the time of execution of the bond and shall not change the residence without prior permission of this Court;

10. The authorities will release the applicant only if he is not required in connection with any other offence for the time being. If breach of any of the above conditions is committed, the concerned Sessions Judge concerned will be free to issue warrant or take appropriate action in the matter. Bail bond to be executed before the lower Court having jurisdiction to try the case. It will be open for the concerned Court to delete, modify and/or relax any of the above conditions, in accordance with law.

11. At the trial, the trial Court shall not be influenced by the observations of preliminary nature qua the evidence at this stage made by this Court while enlarging the applicant on bail.

12. Rule is made absolute to the aforesaid extent. Direct service is permitted.

(DIVYESH A. JOSHI, J.)

Gautam