THE HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE K.SREENIVASA REDDY CRIMINAL PETITION NO.7972 OF 2022

ORDER:

This Criminal Petition, under Sections 437 and 439 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (for short "CrPC"), is filed seeking to release the petitioner/accused on bail in CBI Case No.RC.1/E/2022-CBI/EO-III/NEW DELHI, registered for the offences punishable under Sections 153A, 504, 505 (2) and 506 IPC and 67 of the Information Technology Act, 2000.

The allegation is that key personnel occupying posts of prominence in the State by intentionally targetting the Hon'ble Judges, made interviews/posts/speeches corruption attributing motives, caste and allegations against some of the Judges of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and the High Court of Andhra Pradesh in delivering orders/judgments and posted abusive, life threatening and intimidating posts against higher judiciary on social media platforms viz. Facebook Twitter, YouTube, on the judgments/orders delivered by the Judges.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the petitioner was remanded to judicial custody on 12.09.2022 and since then he is in jail, and most of the

investigation is completed in the subject crime, and hence, prays to consider his case for grant of bail.

A counter affifdavit has been filed by the Deputy Superintendent of Police, Cyber Crime Investigation Division, EO-III/Central Bureau of Investigation.

The learned Deputy Solicitor General of India opposed the bail application stating that the investigation revealed that the Facebook posts made by the petitioner are promoting hatred among the public against the High Court of Andhra Pradesh, created enmity between the people of different groups and intentionally insulting High Court as well as injured reputation/credibility of the High Court. He further submitted that the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), Government of India accorded sanction under Section 196 CrPC. He submitted that investigation in the subject crime is pending.

Perused the record. It is evident from the record that the petitioner was issued a notice under Section 41A CrPC and thereafter arrested on 12.09.2022. He is in judicial custody for more than 35 days. The petitioner was also given to police custody. Most of the investigation is completed. Therefore, this Court feels that detaining the petitioner in jail further would not in any way improve the case of prosecution. Since most of the investigation is completed and for the reason that the petitioner is in

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jail since 12.09.2022, this Court is of the view that request of the petitioner for grant of bail can be considered, but on conditions.

Therefore, the petitioner shall be released on his executing a personal bond for a sum of Rs.10,000/-(Rupees ten thousand only) with two sureties for the like sum each, to the satisfaction of the learned V Additional Metropolitan Magistrate (for CBI Cases) at Vijayawada. The petitioner is directed to co-operate with the investigation.

Accordingly, the Criminal Petition is allowed.

As a sequel thereto, miscellaneous applications, if any pending shall stand closed.

JUSTICE K.SREENIVASA REDDY

17.10.2022 DRK

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