CNR: KAHC010718522026

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU

[RAMAKRISHNA AND OTHERS VS. STATE OF KARNATAKA AND OTHERS]

20.11.2026
(VIDEO CONFERENCING / PHYSICAL HEARING)

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ANANT RAMANATH HEGDE

ORAL ORDER

Heard the learned counsel for the petitioner.

2. Learned Additional State Public Prosecutor accepts notice on behalf of respondents No.1 to 4 .

3. Issue emergent notice to respondent No.5.

4. Learned counsel for the petitioners to serve the copy of the petition to the standing counsel appearing for respondent No.6-Election Commission of India.

5. This petition is filed to quash the FIR dated 07.10.2026 in Crime No.280/20 for the alleged offences under Sections 31 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and Sections 217(b), 3(5), 336(2), 340(2) and 61(2) of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 registered by respondent -Police.

6. Learned counsel for the petitioners would submit that in similar circumstances, the Court has granted protection and the investigation was not stayed. However, there was a direction not to arrest the petitioners.

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7. Learned Additional State Public Prosecutor would submit that the matter requires investigation. Hence, the respondent-State should be permitted to investigate the complaint and in the previous cases involving almost similar questions the State has made a submission that it is not going to arrest the petitioners and in this case also the petitioners will not be arrested. However, petitoners have to co-operate with the investigation.

8. Submission of learned Additional State Public Prosecutor is placed on record.

9. Under these circumstances, prayer for stay of the proceeding is not granted at this juncture. The petitioners shall co-operate for investigation. The respondent-State shall not arrest the petitioners and charge sheet shall not be filed without the leave of the Court.

10. List on 08.01.2027.

Digitally signed by ANANT RAMNATH HEGDE
Location:High Court of Karnataka,Bengaluru
Date:2026.11.23 01:06:42 +05:30

(ANANT RAMANATH HEGDE)
JUDGE

GVP List No:3 Sl No:6