IN THE COURT OF SESSIONS, ERNAKULAM DIVISION

Present:-

Sri. K.K.Balakrishnan, Sessions Judge

Friday, 6th day of November, 2026/15th Karthika, 1948

BA No.2439/2026

(Crime No.594/2026 of Fort Kochi Police Station)

Petitioner/ Accused:	Amrith Singh, aged 34 years, S/o.Vijendra Sinh, 205, Adrsh Nagar, Sagarpali, Balila, Uttar Pradesh-277506.
	By Advs. Akhil Suresh, Kalliyani Krishna B, Anita Elizebeth Babu, Rahul T, Rajath Ratna
Respondent/ Complainant:	State of Kerala, represented by S.I. of Police, Fort Kochi Police Station through Public Prosecutor, District & Sessions Court, Ernakulam, Pin-682011.
	By Public Prosecutor Sri.Manoj G Krishnan

This petition filed u/s.482 of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita praying this Court to grant anticipatory bail to the petitioner.

This petition coming on for hearing on 05.11.2026 and the Court on 06.11.2026 passed the following:

O R D E R

This petition for bail is filed u/s. 482 of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (BNSS) by the sole accused in crime No.594/2026 of Fort Kochi Police Station. The offences alleged against him are punishable under Sections 353(2) and 192 of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (BNS).

2. The allegation of the prosecution, in brief, is as follows :- The Petitioner, knowing that his actions were likely to disturb public

tranquillity and cause communal clashes between religious communities, on 22.10.2026 at about 06:00 AM uploaded a video through his Instagram account bearing the ID `https://www.instagram.com/littichokha_up_?srtk=NzFhaHd6NG1nc3c5`, through the link (https://www.instagram.com/reel/Dezdl5rlvgp/? cplk=enVoZWhsN3MzeHdj). In the said video, he displayed that beef was being sold in an art cafe at Fort Kochi, which was named after Kashi, a sacred place of the Hindu religious community, and that the cafe was situated in an area predominantly inhabited by members of the Muslim community. He also showed that a silver statue of Jinnah had been installed alongside the statue of Mahatma Gandhi in the cafe. By displaying the video and making remarks capable of creating hatred and hostility between the two religious communities, he provoked both favourable and adverse comments creating a situation likely to disturb communal harmony and public peace. The defacto complainant is the manager of coffee shop by name *Kashi Art Cafe*. On the basis of his statement, Fort Kochi police registered the crime in question against the accused alleging aforesaid offences. Apprehending arrest in the case, the petitioner approached this court seeking pre-arrest bail.

3. The petitioner contended that he is a law abiding and respected citizen of the nation, permanently residing at Ballia District,

Uttar Pradesh. He is a professional actor, filmmaker and producer. He has also popular social media personality, operating an Instagram under the username *'littichokha up'* with over 3 lakh followers. He has deep roots in society, a settled professional life and a public reputation built over several years of creative work. He regularly posts photos and videos on his Instagram page discussing contemporary events, developments in geopolitics, national and international news and related sociopolitical issues. The said account does not claim to be an online news or media platform. It is his personal page, where he shares his individual notions and views on current affairs, travel and public debates. In October 2026, he was visiting multiple cities in Keralam for leisure. On 16.10.2026, he travelled from Varkala to Kochi. As a tourist, he visited 'Kashi', an Art Cafe situated in Fort Kochi, explored the heritage locality and interacted with some residents of the area. Based on this experience, he made and posted a video on his Instagram account on 22.10.2026 conveying his personal account of touring the locality and expressing his individual impressions and opinions about what he saw and heard. The said video is, in substance, a travel narrative. It does not name, target or single out any religious, racial, linguistic or regional group or disobedience of law; and it was never intended to outrage any section community for hostility. Not a single incident of violence, public disorder, protest or communal

tension has been reported at Fort Kochi, or anywhere else, as a consequence of the said video. Public peace and tranquility in the locality have remained wholly undisturbed. He is ready to abide by any condition imposed by the court for granting of pre-arrest bail. He pleaded to grant pre arrest bail.

4. The investigating officer submitted report that custodial interrogation of the petitioner is necessary for detailed investigation of the case. The device used for videography is to be seized for collecting more evidence and to ascertain whether any other similar videos are available on the said device and to find out whether such videos have been stored in any other sources. His custodial interrogation is essential to collect information regarding his connections and activities in Keralam for the purpose of the investigation. The actual intention behind his visit in connection with this case has to be ascertained. There is every possibility that he may continue to engage in similar criminal activities, destroy or tamper with the evidence, and thereby adversely affect the investigation. Hence, pleaded to dismiss the application.

5. Heard both sides and perused the case diary.

6. The learned counsel for the petitioner reiterated the facts narrated in the petition. The petitioner is a professional actor,

filmmaker and producer. He has also popular social media personality. He regularly posts photos and videos on his Instagram page discussing contemporary events, developments in geopolitics, national and international news and related socio political issues. He is a law abiding citizen and ready to abide any conditions imposed by the court for granting pre-arrest bail. The learned counsel argued to grant pre-arrest bail to the petitioner.

7. The learned Public Prosecutor seriously opposed the petition and submitted that following the circulation of the video, various organisations came forward, creating communal disharmony in society and organising protests, demonstrations and other activities. The device used by the petitioner is to be recovered. If he is released on bail, there is chance for influencing or threatening the witnesses and it would adversely affect the investigation of the case. There is chance of absconding of him, if released on bail at this stage. So, the learned Public Prosecutor argued to dismiss the petition.

8. I have perused the case diary and report submitted by the prosecution. The crux of allegation is that the video posted by him on Instagram opposed and supported by members of two religious communities creating communal disharmony. The petitioner is a native

of Uttar Pradesh. He has no reported criminal antecedents. Sufficient conditions for bail only needed to address the objection raised by the prosecution against the petition. Therefore, pre-arrest bail is granted to the petitioner with following conditions.

In the result, this petition is allowed on the following conditions.

i. The petitioner is directed to appear before the investigating officer in crime No.594/2026 of Fort Kochi Police Station on or before 17.11.2026 and after interrogation, in the event of his arrest, he shall be released on bail on his executing bond for ₹50,000/- (Rupees fifty thousand only) with two solvent sureties each for the like sum.

ii. He shall appear before the investigating officer as and when directed in writing.

iii. He shall not tamper the evidence or try to influence or intimidate the witnesses.

iv. He shall not involve in any other offence.

v. He shall co-operate with the investigation.

Dictated to the Confidential Assistant, transcribed and typed by her, revised and corrected by me and pronounced on this the 6th day of November, 2026.

Sd/-
K K Balakrishnan
Sessions Judge

Typed by: Sindhu S.T
Comp.by:

// True Copy //
(By Order)

SHERISTADAR

BA No.2439/2026
Order dated: 06.11.2026