

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT PATNA
Criminal Writ Jurisdiction Case No. 1619 of 2017

Arising Out of PS.Case No. -null Year- null Thana -null District- MUZAFFARPUR

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Ganesh Mahto, Son of Yogendra Mahto, R/o Mohalla - Sutapatti Doma Pokhar,
P.S. - Town, District - Muzaffarpur.

.... Petitioner

Versus

1. The State of Bihar through the Principal Secretary Excise Department, Govt. of Bihar.
2. The Principal Secretary Excise Department, Govt. of Bihar.
3. The Collector, Muzaffarpur.
4. The Superintendent of Police, Muzaffarpur.
5. The Officer in Charge, Town P.S. - Muzaffarpur.
6. Director General of Police, Bihar, Patna.

.... Respondents

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Appearance :

For the Petitioner : Mr. Sanjay Parasmani, Advocate

For the Respondents : Mr. Kumar Manish, SC-5

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CORAM: HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE BIRENDRA KUMAR

ORAL JUDGMENT

Date: 06-10-2017

Heard learned counsels for the parties.

The petitioner claims to be owner of motorcycle vehicle bearing registration no. BR06BB5997 which was seized in connection with Muzaffarpur Town P.S. Case No. 244 of 2017 for alleged violation of the Excise Laws.

By the impugned order dated 07.07.2017, the learned 3rd Additional Sessions Judge-cum-Special Judge, Excise, Muzaffarpur refused to release the vehicle in favour of the petitioner for the reason that Section 60 of the Bihar Prohibition and Excise Act, 2016 bars jurisdiction of the court in such matter.

The aforesaid order is under challenge in this criminal writ petition.



The State-respondents have challenged the prayer on the ground that the order of the court below is consistent with the law applicable, hence, requires no interference.

Considering the fact that power of the Executive Authority to confiscate and auction the seized articles, which is exercisable by a judicial authority, is under challenge before a Larger Bench in L.P.A. No. 1647 of 2015 (**Baleshwar Roy vs. The State of Bihar & Ors.**) as well as considering the fact that different Division Benches of this Court have ordered interim release of the seized vehicle in favour of the owner of the vehicle, let the vehicle in question be released in favour of the petitioner on execution of surety bond of Rs.50,000/- (rupees fifty thousand) (not in the form of bank guarantee or cash) along with two sureties of the like amount each with condition that the petitioner shall not dispose of the same without permission of the Court and shall produce the vehicle as and when required by the court.

The release shall be subject to the final result of the pending L.P.A. aforesaid.

With the aforesaid observation, the writ application stands disposed of.

(Birendra Kumar, J)

Kundan/-

AFR/NAFR	N.A.
CAV DATE	N.A.
Uploading Date	09.10.2017
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