

HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH, BILASPUR**MCRC No. 7802 of 2018**

- Mahesh Lodhi, S/o Jagdish Lodhi, aged about 40 years, Caste – Lodhi, R/o Village- Katalwahi, Post Musra, Tehsil Dongargarh, District- Rajnandgaon, (C.G.).

---- Applicant**Versus**

- State of Chhattisgarh Through the Excise Circle Dongargarh, District- Rajnandgaon, Chhattisgarh.

---- Respondent

For Applicant	: Shri Shaleen Singh Baghel, Advocate.
For Respondent/State	: Smt. Smita Ghai, P.L.

Hon'ble Shri Justice Arvind Singh Chandel
Order On Board**27/10/2018**

1. The applicant has preferred this first bail application under Section 439 of Cr.P.C. for grant of regular bail as he is arrested in connection with crime No. 183/2018, registered at Police Station – Excise Circle Dongargarh, District- Rajnandgaon, (C.G.) for the offence punishable under Section 34 (2) of the Chhattisgarh Excise Act.
2. As per the prosecution story, on 27.09.2018, on the basis of information received from an informant, police personnels searched the house of the Applicant and total 18 bulk litres of foreign-made liquor has been seized from his possession and he has been arrested on 27.09.2018.
3. Learned counsel appearing on behalf of the Applicant submits that the Applicant is innocent and has been falsely implicated in the case. He further submits that the Applicant has no criminal antecedent, he is in custody since 27.09.2018 and trial will take some time. Therefore, he may be released on bail.

4. Per contra, learned counsel appearing on behalf of the State opposes the bail application.
5. I have heard learned Counsel for the parties.
6. Considering the facts and circumstances of the case, the evidence collected by the prosecution and further considering the fact that the applicant has no criminal antecedent, he is in custody since 27.09.2018 and trial is likely to take some time, without further commenting on merits of the case, I am inclined to release him on bail.
7. Accordingly, the bail application is allowed.
8. It is directed that the Applicant shall be released on bail on executing a personal bond for a sum of Rs. 20,000/- with one solvent surety for the like amount to the satisfaction of the Trial Court for his appearance before the said Court as and when directed.

Sd/-
(Arvind Singh Chandel)
Judge