

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT PATNA
Civil Writ Jurisdiction Case No.4486 of 2019

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Raghubir Gupta, aged about 60 years, Male, Son of Late Jagdish Prasad,
Resident of Near Howrah Petrol Pump Bordwan Road P.S.-Siliguri, Distt.-
Darjeeling, State-West Bangal

... .. Petitioner/s

Versus

1. The State of Bihar through its Principal Secretary, Excise Department, Govt. of Bihar, Patna
2. The Divisional Commissioner, Excise Department, Purnia Division
3. The District Magistrate, Cum Collector, Kishanganj
4. Superintendent of Police, Kishanganj
5. Officer-in-Charge of Kishanganj, Police Station, Distt.-Kishanganj

... .. Respondent/s

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Appearance :

For the Petitioner/s : Mr. Jyoti Ranjan Jha, Advocate
For the Respondent/s : Mr. Anil Kumar Sinha (GA1)

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CORAM: HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE JYOTI SARAN
and
HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE ARVIND SRIVASTAVA
ORAL JUDGMENT
(Per: HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE JYOTI SARAN)

Date : 14-03-2019

Heard learned counsel for the petitioner and learned
counsel for the State.

The petitioner prays for provisional release of the Bus
bearing Registration No. WB 73D 6396, Engine No. 497TC
73CUY 812110, Chasis No. MAT 751006F8C07660, which has
been seized in connection with Kishanganj P.S. Case No. 22 of
2019 for the offences punishable under Section 30 A and 41 (1)
of the Bihar Prohibition and Excise Act.



It is stated by learned counsel for the petitioner that confiscation proceeding is pending and the vehicle is lying under the open sky in the police station. The seizure list reflects the seizure of 169.200 liters IMFL.

Having heard learned counsel for the parties and taking note of the nature of seizure made as well as the fact that the confiscation proceeding is pending, we direct that the vehicle in question be released provisionally in favour of the petitioner on production of ownership and registration with respect to vehicle in question in his name before the District Magistrate-cum-Collector, Kishanganj with one (local) surety along with a Bank Guarantee or original title deed of immovable property situated within the district to the extent of the value of the vehicle as indicated in the insurance document. The petitioner while submitting the surety and the bank guarantee or the original title deed, as the case may be, shall also furnish the following affidavits / undertakings:

(i) That the vehicle in question has never been involved in any offence of similar nature in past and shall not indulge in similar offence in future.

(ii) That the petitioner shall not indulge in creating



any third party right or interest in respect of the vehicle during the pendency of the confiscation proceeding and shall not alienate the vehicle during this period.

(iii) The petitioner shall furnish an undertaking to produce the vehicle before the confiscating authority as and when required.

(iv) Prior to release of the vehicle, a *Panchanama* would be got prepared by the District Magistrate-cum-Collector, Kishanganj, wherein the photograph of the vehicle shall be taken and will be certified by the petitioner and the same shall be kept on record so that in future, if so required, it may be used as a secondary evidence. The petitioner shall furnish an undertaking not to challenge the said *Panchanama* in course of trial.

The release shall be allowed within a period of 14 days from the date of production of ownership/registration papers supporting the claim of the petitioner together with one (local) surety along with the bank guarantee to the extent of the value of the vehicle as indicated in the insurance amount and the undertakings as stated above. This release would, however, be subject to initiation and finalization of the



confiscation proceeding. The title deed papers shall remain in safe custody of the confiscating authority subject to final decision in the confiscation proceedings.

With the observations/directions above, this writ petition is allowed.

(Jyoti Saran, J)

(Arvind Srivastava, J)

Nasimul/Shailendra

AFR/NAFR	NAFR
CAV DATE	N/A
Uploading Date	02-04-2019
Transmission Date	N/A

