

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT PATNA**  
**Civil Writ Jurisdiction Case No.4559 of 2019**

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Manoj Kumar Agarwal, aged about 49 years, Male, S/o Biharilal Agarwal,  
R/o Sombarihat, Salmari, P.S.- Azamnagar, Distt- Katihar

... .. Petitioner/s

Versus

1. The State of Bihar through Principal Secretary, Excise Deptt., Patna
2. The District Magistrate, Katihar
3. The Superintendent of Police, Katihar
4. The S.H.O. Katihar Town Police Station, Katihar

... .. Respondent/s

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**Appearance :**

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|----------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| For the Petitioner/s | : | Mr. Sanjeev Kumar Singh, Advocate |
| For the Respondent/s | : | Mr. Vikash Kumar (SC11)           |

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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 : 29-03-2019**

None appears on behalf of the petitioner. Learned  
counsel for the State is present.

The prayer is for provisional release of the vehicle  
(Mahindra Tractor with telar) bearing Registration No. BR-39G-  
3567, Engine No. OHO76EF2984, which has been seized in  
connection with Katihar Town P.S. Case No. 61 of 2019 for the  
offences punishable under Section 30 (a) of the Bihar  
Prohibition and Excise Act.

It is stated by learned counsel for the State that  
confiscation proceeding is yet to be initiated and the vehicle is



lying under the open sky in the police station. The seizure list reflects the seizure of 104 liters IMFL.

Having heard learned counsel for the State and taking note of the nature of seizure made as well as the fact that the confiscation proceeding is yet to be initiated, 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 designated Court below with one 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, if any, 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 designated Court below, 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 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 finalisation of the confiscation proceeding. The title deed papers shall remain in safe custody of the Court below 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

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| AFR/NAFR          | NAFR       |
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