

NAFR

HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH, BILASPUR**MCRC No. 2561 of 2020**

- Lakhbir Singh S/o Dheluram Aged About 49 Years R/o Village Gidhwa, Police Station Nandght, Tehsil Navagarh, District Bemetara, Chhattisgarh, District : Bemetara, Chhattisgarh
- Vikrant Kaushal S/o Lakhbir Singh Kaushal Aged About 26 Years R/o Village Gidhwa, Police Station Nandght, Tehsil Navagarh, District Bemetara, Chhattisgarh, District : Bemetara, Chhattisgarh

---- Applicants**Versus**

- State Of Chhattisgarh Through The Station House Officer, Police Station Bhatapara (Rural), District Baloda Bazar-Bhatapara, Chhattisgarh, District : Balodabazar-Bhathapara, Chhattisgarh

---- Respondent

For Applicants : Shri K.S. Kurre, Advocate.
 For Respondent/State : Shri Anand Verma, G.A.

Hon'ble Smt. Justice Rajani Dubey**Order on Board****28.5.2020**

- The accused/applicants have moved this first bail application under Section 439 of the Code of Criminal Procedure for releasing them on regular bail during trial in connection with Crime No.118/2020, registered at Police Station - Bhatapara(Rural), District Balodabazar-Bhatapara(C.G.) for the offence punishable under Section 34(2), 36 of the C.G. Excise Act, 1915.
- It is the case of the prosecution that 1350 bulk liters of illicit liquor was seized by the police from the custody of applicants and thereby committed the offence.
- Learned counsel for the applicants submits that the

applicants have been falsely implicated in the crime in question. He further submits that as the applicants are in custody since 15.3.2020 and the trial is likely to take some time for its final disposal, they may be released on bail.

- On the other hand, counsel for the State opposes the bail application. He submits that unauthorized quantity of illicit liquor has been seized from the possession of the applicants.
- Taking into consideration the condition incorporated in Section 59-A(ii) of the C.G. Excise Act, 1915, and bearing in mind the principles of law laid down in **Banti Singh v. State of Chhattisgarh** (M.Cr.C. No.6846 of 2014), decided on 05.01.2015), if the facts of present case are examined, it is apparent that only 1315 bulk liters of illicit liquor has been seized from them which is more than prescribed limit of 5 bulk liters, but looking to the fact that the applicants are in custody since 15.3.2020, case is triable by Magistrate, trial is likely to take some more time and further taking into account the nature and gravity of offence and plea raised by the applicants that they have falsely been implicated in case, I am of the opinion that present is the fit case, in which, the applicants should be enlarged on regular bail.
- Accordingly, the application is allowed. It is directed that on each of the applicants furnishing a personal bond in the sum of Rs.1,00,000/- with one surety each in the like sum to the satisfaction of the concerned Court for their appearance as and when directed, the applicants shall be released on bail, subject to following conditions:
 - That, the applicants shall furnish a specific,

undertaking that while on bail, they will not commit any excise offence, otherwise bail granted to them shall be liable to be cancelled and shall co-operate the prosecution during trial.

- That, the accused/applicants shall make themselves available for interrogation before the concerned Investigating Officer as and when required and the accused/applicants shall not, directly or indirectly, make any inducement, threat or promise to any person acquainted with the facts of the case so as to dissuade him/her from disclosing such facts to the Court or to any police officer.
- That, the accused/applicants shall not act, in any manner, which will be prejudicial to fair and expeditious trial.

It is made clear that if the applicants have already been released on bail pursuant to the bail bonds already furnished in view of the order passed by the High Power Committee constituted in compliance of the order of the Supreme Court of India dated 23.3.2020 in the matter of **In Re : Contagion of COVID 19 Virus in Prisons** (Suo Moto Writ Petition (C) No. 1/2020), they need not furnish bail bonds afresh and the bail bonds already furnished shall be deemed to be the bail bonds furnished in compliance of the order of this Court, but if they have not furnished the bail bonds earlier, then they will be required to furnish bail bonds within four weeks from today.

Certified copy, as per rules.

Sd/

(Rajani Dubey)
Judge