

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT PATNA
Civil Writ Jurisdiction Case No.10726 of 2022

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Akash Kumar son of Keshav Kumar Gupta, Resident of Ward No. -8 Mohalla
- Miscot, P.S. - Town, District - East Champaran.

... .. Petitioner/s

Versus

1. The State of Bihar through Principal Secretary, Department of Excise and Prohibition, Govt. of Bihar, Patna.
2. The District Magistrate, East Champaran at Motihari.
3. The Superintendent of Police, East Champaran at Motihari.
4. The SHO, Town Police Station, District - East Champaran.

... .. Respondent/s

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(The proceedings of the Court are being conducted by Hon'ble the Chief Justice /Hon'ble Judges through Video Conferencing from their residential offices/residences. Also, the Advocates and the Staffs joined the proceedings through Video Conferencing from their residences /offices.)

Appearance :

For the Petitioner/s : Mr.Asif Kalim, Adv
For the Respondent/s : Mr.Kumar Manish (SC5)

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CORAM: HONOURABLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE
and
HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE S. KUMAR
ORAL JUDGMENT
(Per: HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE S. KUMAR)

Date : 29-07-2022

Heard learned counsel for the parties.

Petitioner has prayed for the following relief(s):-

- i. For issuance of an appropriate writ in the nature of Mandamus directing the respondents to release Slaty Colour Datsun Car of the petitioner bearing Registration No- BRO6PD9047, Engine No-HR12798053D, Chasis No-MDHJBAAD0J3702919 which was seized in connection with Town P.S Case No-116/2022 registered under Section 30 (a) of the Bihar Prohibition and Excise Act, 2016

Allegation is recovery of 750 ml of illicit liquor from the seized vehicle.

Petitioner claims to be the owner of the said vehicle. It is further submitted that a meagre quantity of 750 ml of liquor has been recovered from the vehicle, as such, it cannot be inferred that the vehicle was used for transporting/carrying illicit liquor, nor it can be presumed that recovered illicit liquor was kept for sale/purchase/ trade purpose and it appears that same was kept for personal consumption.

In the facts and circumstances of the case, **the District Magistrate/Confiscating Officer concerned** is directed to provisionally release the vehicle of petitioner after due identification of ownership of the vehicle on production of ownership and registration papers with respect to vehicle in question in his/her name and on furnishing adequate sureties to the satisfaction of District Magistrate / Confiscating Authority

and undertaking.

The release shall be allowed within a period of 14 days from the date of submission of the sureties and the undertakings as stated above, which would however be subject to finalization of the confiscation proceeding.

Petitioner is also at liberty to get his/her vehicle released on payment of penalty in terms of Rule 12(A) inserted by amending Bihar Prohibition and Excise Rules, 2021.

With said observation and direction, this writ petition is disposed of.

(Sanjay Karol, CJ)

(S. Kumar, J)

ranjan/-

AFR/NAFR	NAFR
CAV DATE	NA
Uploading Date	
Transmission Date	NA