

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT PATNA
CRIMINAL MISCELLANEOUS No.17491 of 2024

Arising Out of PS. Case No.-199 Year-2023 Thana- BAJPATTI District- Sitamarhi

Munnu Mahto S/o Nagendra Mahto R/o Village- Rampur Hari, P.S.- Chhapra,
Dist.- Muzaffarpur

... .. Petitioner/s

Versus

The State of Bihar

... .. Opposite Party/s

Appearance :

For the Petitioner/s : Mr. Santosh Kumar, Adv
For the Opposite Party/s : Mr. Md. Nazir Ansari, APP

**CORAM: HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE CHANDRA PRAKASH
SINGH**

ORAL ORDER

2 15-03-2024 Heard learned counsel for the petitioner and learned
Additional Public Prosecutor for the State.

2. The Petitioner is apprehending his arrest in connection with Bajpatti P.S. Case No. 199 of 2023 dated 05.07.2023 of the offences punishable u/s 30(a) of the Bihar Prohibition and Excise Act 2018.

3. As per the prosecution case, total 306 litres of illicit Nepali liquor was recovered from the *Swift car*.

4. Learned counsel for the petitioner has submitted that the petitioner is innocent and has falsely been implicated in this case. The petitioner has no criminal antecedent as stated at para 3 of the bail petition. The petitioner is the owner of the said vehicle but the same was not being driven by him at the time of



alleged recovery. The name of the petitioner has transpired in this case on the basis of owner of the seized vehicle. No incriminating article has been recovered from the conscious possession of the petitioner, hence no case is made out. Learned Counsel has relied on the judgment of Full Bench of Hon'ble Patna High Court in the case of **Ram Vinay Yadav vs. State of Bihar reported in 2019 (2) PLJR 1089**. The Full Bench in the case of **Ram Vinay Yadav (supra)** has held that an application for anticipatory bail in a case arising out of Bihar Excise and Prohibition Act can be maintained, despite the bar under Section 76 (2) of the Act, if on the basis of allegation made in the FIR, no offence under the said provision is made out.

5. Learned A.P.P. for the State has vehemently opposed the prayer for anticipatory bail of the petitioner by submitting that the bar of Section 76(2) of the Act applies in this case.

6. Considering the aforesaid facts and circumstances of the case as well as the nature of allegation against the petitioner, let the above named petitioner, in the event of his arrest/surrender within a period of six weeks from today, be enlarged on anticipatory bail on furnishing bail-bond of Rs. 20,000/- (Rupees twenty thousand) with two sureties of the like



amount each to the satisfaction of the learned court concerned, Sitamarhi, in connection with Bajpatti P.S. Case No. 199 of 2023 subject to conditions as laid down under section 438(2) of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

7. This application stands allowed.

(Chandra Prakash Singh, J)

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