

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT PATNA
CRIMINAL MISCELLANEOUS No.20770 of 2024

Arising Out of PS. Case No.-10 Year-2024 Thana- ANDHRAMATH District- Madhubani

Dheeraj Kumar Yadav son of Rajdev Yadav Village- Arnama Ps- Andhramath
Dist- Madhubani

... .. Petitioner/s

Versus

The State of Bihar Bihar

... .. Opposite Party/s

Appearance :

For the Petitioner/s : Mr. Gagan Deo Yadav, Adv.
Mr. Vinod Kumar, Adv.
For the Opposite Party/s : Mr. Abhay Kumar, APP

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

ORAL ORDER

4 07-08-2024 Heard learned counsel for the petitioner and learned
A.P.P for the State.

2. The petitioner has preferred this application for grant of regular bail in connection with Andhramath P.S. Case No. 10 of 2024, G.R. No. 03 of 2024 dated 17.01.2024 registered for the offence/s punishable u/s 30(a) of the Bihar Prohibition and Excise Act and 21/27 of N.D.P.S. Act.

3. As per the prosecution case, on secret information, police recovered a black colored bag and a cartoon containing drugs and injections from the terrace and shop of the co-accused Laxmi Yadav and the petitioner was also found sitting in said shop.

4. Learned counsel for the petitioner has submitted that



the petitioner is innocent and has falsely been implicated in this case. Nothing has been recovered from the conscious possession of the petitioner. The said recovery was made from the shop of the co-accused person. The petitioner has clean antecedent as stated in para 3 of the bail petition. The petitioner is in custody since 17.01.2024.

5. Learned A.P.P. for the State has vehemently opposed the bail petition of the petitioner. The seized contraband was recovered in a huge quantity containing codeine Phosphate. The said contraband is of commercial quantity. It is further submitted that as per entry 28 of the list of NDPS Act, small quantity of codeine as defined is 10 gram and commercial quantity of codeine as defined is 1 kg. The accused at this stage cannot be presumed to be 'not guilty' of the offence that he is charged with. The petitioner was found in possession of the contraband without having valid authorization. Learned APP for the State also placed reliance on the judgment in the case of ***Hira Singh and Anr. Vs. Union of India and Anr, (2020)20 Supreme Court Cases 272*** of Hon'ble Apex Court has held that "weight of entire materials/ mixture along with neutral material is to be considered for ascertainment of whether the quantity is "small quantity" or "commercial quantity". The petitioner had no any valid authorization for keeping the said contraband material.

6. As per Section 37 of the N.D.P.S. Act, the two



conditions are that the Court should be satisfied with :-

(i) There are reasonable grounds for believing that the accused is not guilty of such offence; and

(ii) He is not likely to commit any offence while on bail.

7. If either of these two conditions is not satisfied, the bar operates and the accused cannot be released on bail. The Court is of the opinion that the parameters of bail available under Section 37 of the Act have not satisfied in the facts of the instant case. The Hon'ble Supreme Court in the case of ***Narcotics Control Bureau v. Mohit Aggarwal 2022 SCC OnLine SC 891*** has held that “*The length of the period of his custody or the fact that the charge-sheet has been filed and the trial has commenced are by themselves not considerations that can be treated as persuasive grounds for granting relief to the respondent under Section 37 of the N.D.P.S. Act.*”

8. Considering the aforesaid facts and circumstances of the case as well as the material available on the record, I am not inclined to enlarge the petitioner on bail.

9. The application stands rejected.

(Chandra Prakash Singh, J)

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