

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT PATNA
CRIMINAL MISCELLANEOUS No.38210 of 2024

Arising Out of PS. Case No.-191 Year-2024 Thana- SAKRA District- Muzaffarpur

Santosh Mahto @ Santosh Kumar Son Of Rajendra Mahto Resident Of
Village - Bishanpur Bakhari, P.S. - Sakra, District - Muzaffarpur

... .. Petitioner/s

Versus

The State of Bihar

... .. Opposite Party/s

Appearance :

For the Petitioner/s : Mr. Anish Kumar, Adv

For the Opposite Party/s : Mr. Asha Kumari, APP

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

ORAL ORDER

2 23-05-2024 Heard learned counsel for the petitioner and learned
Additional Public Prosecutor for the State.

2. The Petitioner is apprehending his arrest in connection with Sakra P.S. Case No. 191 of 2024 dated 22.03.2024 of the offences punishable u/s sections 30(a) of the Bihar Prohibition and Excise Act 2016.

3. As per the prosecution case, total 3832.920 litres of illicit foreign made liquor was recovered from the truck.

4. Learned counsel for the petitioner has submitted that the petitioner is innocent and has falsely been implicated in this case. The petitioner has one criminal case as stated in para 3 of the bail petition. The name of the petitioner has transpired in this case due to confessional statement of the local chowkidar.



The petitioner is not the owner of the said vehicle and the same was not being driven by him at the time of the alleged recovery. 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, Muzaffarpur, in connection with Sakra P.S. Case No. 191 of 2024, 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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