

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT PATNA
CRIMINAL MISCELLANEOUS No.83544 of 2023

Arising Out of PS. Case No.-263 Year-2023 Thana- ASHTHAWAN District- Nalanda

Pankaj Mahto @ Pankaj Kumar Son Of Ranju Mahto @ Ranjit Prasad
Resident Of Village - Ugawan, Chakpar, P.S. - Asthawan, District - Nalanda

... .. Petitioner/s

Versus

THE STATE OF BIHAR

... .. Opposite Party/s

Appearance :

For the Petitioner/s : Mr.Aryan Singh, Adv.

For the Opposite Party/s : Mr.Brajendra Nath Pandey, APP

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

ORAL ORDER

2 19-01-2024 Heard learned counsel for the petitioner and learned
Additional Public Prosecutor for the State.

2. The petitioner is apprehending his arrest in connection with Asthawan P.S. Case No. 263 of 2023 dated 12.10.2023 for the offences punishable u/ss 30(a) and 38 of the Bihar Prohibition and Excise Act.

3. As per the prosecution case, total 66.750 litres of illicit foreign liquor was recovered from the bush near the poultry farm of the petitioner.

4. Learned counsel for the petitioner has submitted that the petitioner has falsely been implicated in this case. The petitioner has no criminal antecedent as stated in para 3 of the bail petition. The name of the petitioner was disclosed by local



chowkidar. It is further submitted that the petitioner has no concern with the alleged recovery. No incriminating article has been recovered from the conscious possession of the petitioner, hence no case is made out against the petitioner. 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,
Nalanda at Bihar Sharif in connection with Asthawan P.S. Case
No. 263 of 2023, subject to conditions as laid down under
section 438(2) of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

7. The application stands allowed.

(Chandra Prakash Singh, J)

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