

**IN THE HIGH COURT AT CALCUTTA
CIRCUIT BENCH AT JALPAIGURI**

24.01.2025.
16/tkm

C.R.M. (A) 36 of 2025

In Re : An application for anticipatory bail under section 482 of BNS 2023 in connection with Siliguri P.S case no. 408 of 2024 dated 1.5.2024 under sections 363/365/366/370(4)/376(3)/109/120B IPC read with sections 6 and 17 of the POCSO Act and 3/4/5/6/9 of the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act

And

In Re : Ukil Mahato @ Okil Mahato @ Pradip Mahato
...petitioner

Mr. Shivam Shiddharth
Mr. Jhankar Chettri
Mr. Rahul Yadav
Mr. Pallav Sharma

...for the Petitioner

Mr. A S Chakraborty, Id APP
Mr. Kallol Nag

...for the State

1. Petitioner contends he is not the owner of the brothel. He has been falsely implicated in the case. He prays for anticipatory bail.

2. Learned lawyer for the State opposes the prayer.

3. We have considered the material on record. A minor girl had been kidnapped from Assam. She was sold to a brothel in Khalpara. Police party recovered her. From her statement and other circumstances it transpires she was confined at the petitioner's residence which was used for commercial sex. It is contended petitioner has criminal antecedents. In light of the nature of crime which has far reaching social ramifications and his criminal antecedents we are of the opinion this is not a fit case to grant anticipatory bail to the petitioner.

4. Accordingly, prayer for anticipatory bail is rejected.

(Gaurang Kanth, J.)

(Joymalya Bagchi, J.)