**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT PATNA**
**CRIMINAL MISCELLANEOUS No.51980 of 2026**

**CNR No. BRHC010695382026**

Arising Out of PS. Case No.-206 Year-2025 Thana- GHORASAHAN District- East Champaran

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Sanjeev jaiswal @ pappu s/o baidhnath prasad @ baidnath prasad jaiswal r/o vill - Ghorasahan, ward no. 3, P.S.- Ghorasahan, Distt.- East Champaran, Bihar

... ... Petitioner/s

Versus

The State of Bihar

... ... Opposite Party/s

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**Appearance :**
For the Petitioner/s : Mr. Rajiv Prashant, Advocate
For the State : Mr. Navin Kumar Pandey, APP
For the Informant : Mr. Nagendra Kumar Singh, Advocate

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**CORAM: HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE CHANDRA SHEKHAR JHA**

ORAL ORDER

5 19-11-2026 Heard the parties.

2. The petitioner seeks bail in connection with Ghorasahan P.S. Case No. 206 of 2025 registered for the offence under Sections 126(2), 115(2), 308(2), 356(3), 356(4), 352 and 351(3) of the B.N.S., 2023.

3. The petitioner is named in the F.I.R. and is in custody since 13.11.2025.

4. As per FIR, the accused petitioner who is a local journalist reported against the informant in magazine about his indulgence in cyber fraud in Ghorasahan Block of District- East Champaran. It is alleged that the report was

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false which damage the reputation of informant. It is further alleged through FIR that on 26.06.2025, while the informant was walking around 9:00 A.M., the petitioner asked a sum of Rs. 2 Lakhs as extortion money and in case of non-payment further similar defamatory publication against him shall be made.

5. It is submitted by learned counsel appearing for the petitioner that it is admitted position that the petitioner is a local journalist who had highlighted the different matters related with cyber frauds and other social evils of Motihari district and while doing his job, he had reported against informant regarding his indulgence in cyber fraud. It is submitted that with oblique motive and wreaking vengeance, the informant had raised allegations of demanding extortion money of Rs. 2 lakhs against petitioner without having cogent material and no payment was made to the petitioner at any point of time. It is submitted that there is nothing which may suggest that even there is subsequent similar publication against informant as threatened.

6. While concluding the argument, it is submitted

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that investigation of this case has already completed, for which charge-sheet has been submitted, as such, there is no chance of tampering with the evidence. Explaining criminal antecedent, it is submitted that petitioner found indulged in 27 more criminal cases almost with similar nature which falls in the categories of petty offences in which he has already been acquitted in five cases and in three cases, after investigation, final form/closure report was submitted against him and, therefore, effectively only 19 cases are pending against the petitioner. In this context, it is further submitted that merit of case, if otherwise, appears convincing in favour of petitioner, merely on the basis of his criminal antecedents, ordinarily, the prayer of bail should not be declined. In support of his submission, learned counsel relied upon the legal report of Hon'ble Supreme Court as available through ***Prabhakar Tewari Vs. State of Uttar Pradesh & Ors.*** reported in ***(2020) 11 SCC 648.***

7. Learned APP duly assisted by learned counsel Mr. Nagendra Kumar Singh, appearing on behalf of the informant, while opposing the prayer of bail submitted that

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trial of this case is under progress and two witnesses have already been examined

8. Taking a contrary note of the aforesaid submissions, it is further submitted by the learned counsel for the petitioner that despite custody for more than one year, only two witnesses were examined as submitted aforesaid by learned counsel for the informant, suggesting sufficiently that trial of this case is not likely to conclude in near future. It is submitted that certainly, the petitioner shall not be kept behind bar for indefinite period in want of trial.

9. In view of aforesaid facts and submission and by taking note of the fact as *prima facie* allegations of extortion of Rs. Two Lakhs appears made in the background of publications of articles in newspaper on the basis of reporting made by this petitioner coupled with fact that investigation of this case has already been completed, where petitioner is in custody since 13.11.2025, and further the progress of trial also speaks *prima facie* that there is no likelihood that it may conclude in near future, accordingly petitioner above named, is directed to be released on bail in

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connection with Ghorasahan P.S. Case No. 206 of 2025 on furnishing bail bond of Rs.10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand) with two sureties of the like amount each to the satisfaction of learned Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate- I, subject to the conditions as mentioned under Section 437(3) of the Cr.P.C/ Section 480(3) of BNSS.

**(Chandra Shekhar Jha, J)**

Anjali/-

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