

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT PATNA
CRIMINAL APPEAL (SJ) No.3102 of 2025

Arising Out of PS. Case No.-101 Year-2024 Thana- SC/ST District- Madhubani

Saurabh Sunny @ Saurabh Kumar @ Saurabh Sahni S/O Moti Prasad R/O-
J.P Colony, Ward No.-29, P.S - Town, District - Madhubani

... .. Appellant/s

Versus

1. The State of Bihar
2. Anjali Kumari W/O Saurabh Sunny R/O- Village, J.P Colony, Ward No.-29,
P.S - Town, District - Madhubani, At present Churi Bazar, Dhobi Tol, Ward
No.-24, P.S- Town, Dist.- Madhubani.

... .. Respondent/s

Appearance :

For the Appellant/s : Mr.Ashok Kumar, ADvocate
For the Respondent/s : Ms.Usha Kumari 1, APP

CORAM: HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE PURNENDU SINGH
ORAL ORDER

4 23-02-2026 Heard learned counsel appearing on behalf of the
petitioner and learned APP for the State.

2. The appellant has preferred the appeal under
Section 14(A)(2) of the SC/ST Act against the rejection of
prayer for pre-arrest bail *vide* order dated 09.07.2025 by learned
District and Addl. Sessions Judge 1st-cum- Special Judge,
Madhubani in connection with Madhubani SC/ST P.S. Case
No.101/2024 registered under Sections
147,341,,379,354B,498A,504,506, of the Indian Penal Code
and Sections 3(i)(r),3(i)(S) and 3(i)(wi) and ,3(2)(va) of the
SC/ST Act.

3. As per the allegation made in the FIR, the



informant, soon after her marriage, was subjected to physical and mental torture by her husband and her in-laws due to non-fulfillment of demand of dowry.

4. Learned counsel appearing on behalf of the appellant submitted that appellant is innocent and has falsely been implicated in the present case. He further submitted that appellant always tries to lead a peaceful married life with the informant but she never co-operates with him on the instigation of her family members. Learned counsel further submitted that marriage is a sacred ceremony but little matrimonial skirmish suddenly erupts into hatred and the parties ponder to reconcile their dispute outside the court.

5. Learned APP appearing on behalf of the State submitted that a chance be given to the parties for amicable settlement outside the court.

6. Learned counsel for the Appellant, on instruction, submitted that the appellant has agreed to appear before the learned District Court at 10:30 A.M. on 09.03.2026 for resolving the dispute by way of mediation.

7. Heard the parties.

8. The matrimonial dispute is not an offense against the society rather a matrimonial dispute is a private conflict



between spouses and does not inherently constitute an offence against society. However, a false case can have a disastrous consequence in absence of any criminal content. The personal dispute cannot call for a criminal offence. In such situation, continuation of the proceeding would amount to abuse of process of law leading to vexatious proceeding against the petitioner.

9. In this regard, the Apex Court in the case of ***B.S. Joshi v. State of Haryana***, reported in, ***(2003) 4 SCC 675***, in paragraph nos. 12 and 13 has held as under:-

“12. The special features in such matrimonial matters are evident. It becomes the duty of the court to encourage genuine settlements of matrimonial disputes.

13. The observations made by this Court, though in a slightly different context, in G.V. Rao v. L.H.V. Prasad [(2000) 3 SCC 693 : 2000 SCC (Cri) 733] are very apt for determining the approach required to be kept in view in a matrimonial dispute by the courts. It was said that there has been an outburst of matrimonial disputes in recent times. Marriage is a sacred ceremony, the main purpose of which is to enable the young couple to settle down in life and live peacefully. But little matrimonial skirmishes suddenly erupt which often assume serious proportions resulting in commission of heinous crimes in which elders of the family are also involved with the result that those who could have counselled and brought about rapprochement are rendered helpless on their being arrayed as accused in the criminal case. There are many other reasons which need not be mentioned here for not encouraging matrimonial litigation so that the parties may ponder over their defaults and terminate their disputes amicably by mutual agreement instead of fighting it out in a court of law where it takes years and years to conclude and in that process the parties lose their “young” days in chasing their “cases” in different courts.”

10. The appellant has willingly desired to appear before the learned District Court on 09.03.2026, so that the



matter can be referred to the District Mediation Centre.

11. Learned District Court is directed to take necessary steps to issue notices to the respective parties and upon their appearance, refer the matter before the learned Mediator of the District Mediation Center by fixing a date for appearance of the parties to give effect to Mediation 2.0.

12. Learned Mediator of the District Mediation Center concerned upon appearance of the parties on the fixed date shall make his/her best efforts to settle the dispute amicably and thereafter submit his/her report before the concerned learned District Court, well within a period of three months, till then, no coercive action shall be taken against the appeellant in connection with the aforesaid case.

13. In case, the parties resolve their dispute amicably or arrive at a mutual settlement, in light of the law laid down by the Apex Court, the appellant is required to be released on pre-arrest bail on such terms and conditions as the learned District Court deems it fit and proper.

14. In case of failure on the part of the appellant to appear on 09.03.2026 before the learned District Court or any date fixed by the learned Mediator, the interim protection granted to the appellant shall automatically lose its force.



15. In case, it is deliberate on the part of the opposite party no.2 to reconcile, then in that case, the interim protection granted to the appellant shall continue and the trial shall proceed in accordance with law.

16. In case, the parties fail to reconcile, then in that case, parties may avail appropriate remedy. Then also, appellant is directed to be released on pre-arrest bail on such terms and conditions as the learned District Court deems it fit and proper.

17. With aforesaid direction and observation, the present appeal stands disposed of.

(Purnendu Singh, J)

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