16.11.2026
Item no. 46.
Court No.7.
AB
(Allowed)

Calcutta High Court
In the Circuit Bench at Jalpaiguri

CRM (A) 805 of 2026

In Re: An Application for Anticipatory Bail under Section 438 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973/Under Section 482 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 in connection with Sitai Police Station Case No.200 of 2026 Dated 20.08.2026 under Sections 85/103/3(5) of the B.N.S. 2023 read with Section 3/4 of the DP Act

And

In the matter of : Ranbala Barman @ Rangbala Barman & Ors.

.....Petitioners.

Mr. Ratan Chandra Roy .....for the Petitioners.

Mr. Avrojyoti Das, ld. APP
Mr. Gobinda Saha,
Ms. Madhushri Dutta .....for the State.

1. The petitioner no.1 is the mother-in-law, the petitioner nos. 2 to 5 are married sisters-in-law and the petitioner no.6 is the elder brother-in-law of the victim lady.

2. The allegation is that the petitioners and the victim's husband Nakul Barman tortured the victim over a long period of time. As a result, the victim was driven to hang herself.

3. Learned Advocate for the petitioners says that the petitioners have no role to play in the alleged offence. The prime accused being the victim's husband is in custody. The petitioners are prepared to fully cooperate with the Investigating Officer. They pray for anticipatory bail.

4. Learned State Counsel strongly opposes the prayer. He draws my attention to the material in the case diary. He says that the petitioners and the prime accused meted out physical torture to the victim over a protracted period of time which ultimately resulted in the death of the victim. No leniency should be shown to the petitioners.

5. I have considered the material on record. I have seen the post mortem report. There does not appear to be any sign of external injury. The cause of death is recorded as "due to asphyxia due to hanging in rope like material". I have also considered the statements of witnesses recorded under Section 180 of the B.N.S.S. 2023. The main accused appears to be the husband of the victim who is not before me.

6. On an overall assessment of the facts and circumstances of the case and on a prima facie assimilation of the evidence on record, I am of the view that immediate custodial interrogation of the petitioners may not be necessary so long as they fully cooperate with the Investigating Officer.

7. Accordingly, in the event of arrest, the petitioners, namely **Ranbala @ Rangbala Barman, Anima Ray Mandal (Barman) @ Rachna Barman @ Anima Roy Maldal, Gitabala Barman @ Gita Barman, Gourimuni Barman @ Sounmoni Barman, Nayani Barman @ Narayani Barman** and **Bhim Barman** shall be released on bail upon furnishing a bond of Rs.10,000/-each, with

two sureties of like amount each, one of whom must be local, to the satisfaction of the arresting officer and shall abide by the conditions laid down in Section 438(2) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973/Section 482(2) of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 until further orders and on further condition that the petitioner no.6 shall report to the Investigating Officer within three days from date and as and when called for, until further orders and the petitioner nos.1 to 5 shall cooperate with the Investigating Officer.

8. In case the petitioners fail to adhere to any of the conditions mentioned in Section 438(2) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973/Section 482(2) of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, the learned Court below shall be entitled to cancel the anticipatory bail without further reference to this Court.

9. CRM (A) 805 of 2026 stands disposed of.

10. All parties shall act in terms of server copy of the order downloaded from the official website of this Court.

(Arijit Banerjee, J.)