IN THE HIGH COURT OF JHARKHAND AT RANCHI
A.B.A. No. 780 of 2026

Arvind Kumar Choudhari @ Arbind Kumar Choudhary, aged about 37 years, S/o Raj Kumar Choudhary, R/o Raksaha, P.O. & P.S. Rehla, District- Palamu, Jharkhand **... Petitioner**

-Versus-

The State of Jharkhand **... Opposite Party**

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY KUMAR DWIVEDI

For the Petitioner : Mr. Nikhil Ranjan, Advocate
For the State : Mr. Sunil Kumar Dubey, A.P.P.

04/12.02.2026 Heard learned counsel appearing for the petitioner and learned counsel appearing for the State.

2. The petitioner is apprehending his arrest in connection with Rehla P.S. Case No.84/2025, registered for the offence under Section 317(2) of the BNS, 2023, Sections 33 and 42 of the Indian Forest Act, pending in the Court of the learned Additional Sessions Judge-VIII, Daltonganj at Palamu.

3. Learned counsel appearing for the petitioner submits that the allegations are made of carrying wood logs on the tractor. He further submits that the petitioner is happened to be owner of the vehicle and he was not driving the said vehicle. By way of referring Annexure-2, he submits that life of tree was over and it was being investigated and it has come that at any point of time the tree will fall and for that, the driver of the said vehicle has written to the Circle Officer, Vishrampur (Palamau) and pursuant to that he has recommended the same to the forest officials. He next submits that the petitioner is not having criminal antecedent, as disclosed in paragraph 7 of this application.

4. Learned counsel appearing for the State opposed the prayer and submits that the allegations are there of illegally carrying wood logs.

5. Annexure-2 is the document issued under the signature of the Circle Officer, Vishrampur (Palamau), who has requested the forest officials of Vishrampur to take steps for cutting of the tree and it has come in the investigation that the tree may fall at any point of time. The petitioner has got no criminal antecedent, as disclosed in paragraph 7 of this application and in that view of the matter, the petitioner is directed to surrender before the learned Court within two weeks from today and the learned Court shall release the petitioner on such terms and conditions, as the learned Court may deem fit and proper.

6. Accordingly, this application is disposed of.

(Sanjay Kumar Dwivedi, J.)

Dated: 12th February, 2026
Ajay/