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NAFR

HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH AT BILASPUR

MCRC No. 9715 of 2026

*** -** Smt. Anjula Soni W/o Shri Gulab Chand Soni Aged About 54 Years Occupation - Principal, Government Higher Secondary School, Kirari (Akaltara), District - Janjgir-Champa (C.G.), R/o Behind Dreamland School, New Sarkanda, Bilaspur, District- Bilaspur (C.G.)

… Applicant

Versus

*** -** State Of Chhattisgarh Through P.S. Anti-Corruption Bureau, Bilaspur, District- Bilaspur, (C.G.)

... Non-Applicant

For Applicant	**:**	Mr. Ashutosh Trivedi, Advocate
For Non-Applicant	**:**	Mr. Dharmesh Shrivastava, Deputy Advocate General

Hon’ble Shri Justice Rakesh Mohan Pandey
Order on Board

04/11/2026

1. This is the first bail application filed under under Section 483 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 for grant of regular bail to the applicant, who has been arrested in connection with Crime No.42 of 2026 registered at Police Station Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB), Unit Bilaspur, District Chhattisgarh for commission of offence punishable under Sections 7 and 12 of Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988.

2. As per case of prosecution, complainant- Manish Rathore, Assistant Grade-III at Government Higher Secondary School Kirari made a complainant making allegation for payment of arrears of increment of salary approximately Rs.80,000/-, the applicant herein made a demand

of bribe Rs.20,000/- which was later negotiated down to Rs.10,000/-. Following trap proceeding was conducted on 03.09.2026 and co-accused Vikas Masih was allegedly caught red handed accepting Rs.10,000/-. It is alleged that on the instance of present applicant, co-accused had accepted bribe Rs.10,000/-. Accordingly, F.I.R. was registered against the applicant and co-accused.

3. Learned counsel appearing for the applicant would argue that the applicant is innocent, she has falsely been implicated, there was no acceptance of bribe on the part of the applicant, charge-sheet has already been filed and she has no criminal antecedent. He would further argue that the applicant is government servant, therefore, she may be released on bail.

4. On the other hand, learned Deputy Advocate General appearing for the State/non-applicant would oppose. He would contend that the applicant was in position to demand bribe of Rs.20,000/- to release the arrears of increment of salary to the complainant and such demand was made and subsequently co-accused was caught red handed accepting Rs.10,000/-. He would further contend that co-accused in his memorandum statement stated that the said amount was accepted by him on the presence of applicant. He would submit that the bail application of the present applicant deserves to be rejected.

5. I have have heard learned counsel for the parties and perused the case diary.

6. Having considered the fact that charge-sheet has already been filed, the applicant is in jail since 03.09.2026, though there was demand, but the alleged amount was accepted by the co-accused, the applicant has no criminal antecedent, further taking of note that the applicant is a

lady, without commenting anything on merits of the case, I am inclined to grant regular bail to the applicant. Accordingly, the bail application filed by the applicant is **allowed**.

7. It is directed that in the event of the applicant executing a personal bond for a sum of Rs. 50,000/- with one surety in the like sum to the satisfaction of the concerned trial Court, she shall be released on bail on the following conditions:-

I. She shall not directly or indirectly make any inducement, threat or promise to any person acquainted with the facts of the case so as to dissuade him/her from disclosing such fact to the Court;

II. She shall not act in any manner which will be prejudicial to a fair and expeditious trial;

III. She shall appear before the trial Court on each and every date given to her by the said Court till the disposal of the trial; and,

IV. She shall not involve herself in any offence of a similar nature in future.

8. The observation made in the course of this order is only for considering the case of the applicant on the application for the grant of regular bail. The concerned trial Court shall not be influenced or bound by any observation made in the course of this order.

9. Certified copy as per rules.

Sd/-
(Rakesh Mohan Pandey)
Judge

vatti