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PAWAN KUMAR JHA
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HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH AT BILASPUR

MCRCA No. 1848 of 2026

- Rakesh Kumar Ratnesh S/o Shri Nakul Ratnesh Aged About 39 Years R/o Village Ghana, Tahsil Bilaigarh, District Sarangarh Bilaigarh C. G.

... Applicant

versus

- State Of Chhattisgarh Through Station House Officer, Police Station Kasdol, District Balodabazar Bhatapara C. G.

... Respondent

For Applicant	:	Mr. Sudhir Kumar Verma, Advocate
For Respondent-State	:	Ms. Sharmila Singhai, Addl. Advocate General with Ms. Avelin Juneja, Panel Lawyer

Hon'ble Shri Parth Prateem Sahu, Judge

ORDER ON BOARD

04/11/2026

1. Applicant has preferred this application under Section 482 of Bhartiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 for grant of anticipatory bail as he apprehends his arrest in connection with Crime No. 391/2026 registered at Police Station- Kasdol, District Baloda Bazar (C.G.) for the offence punishable under Sections 308(2), 316(5), 318(4), 336(2), 338, 340(2) and Section 61(2) Bhartiya Nyay Samhita, 2023.

2. Case of prosecution, in brief, is that complainant Devvrat Sahu lodged a written complaint at Police Station Kasdol, alleging that applicant, who was posted as a Rural Agriculture Extension Officer, misused his official position to intimidate agricultural traders and obtain pesticides without payment. The complainant, who runs Shri Ram Traders and an agricultural service centre at village Sel, alleged that the accused frequently visited his shop and threatened to conduct raids, seize stock

and registers, and recommend cancellation of his licence if pesticides were not supplied to him. Under such pressure, the complainant supplied pesticides worth ₹93,760/- on 15.07.2026, for which the accused failed to make payment. Despite repeated demands, the accused executed an undertaking on 25.07.2026 promising to repay the amount by 16.08.2026, but failed to do so and instead offered a vehicle bearing registration No. CG 22 Z 1191, which was not registered in his name, towards repayment. It was further alleged that the accused had similarly cheated other traders, including Yashwant Nayak and Naresh Kumar, by obtaining pesticides and other agricultural products worth ₹2,53,610/- and ₹9,44,000/-, respectively, and issuing cheques bearing different signatures. Thus, the accused allegedly misappropriated goods worth a total of ₹12,41,310/- from the complainant and other traders. Based on the above report, aforementioned crime was registered.

3. Learned counsel for the applicant would submit that applicant has been falsely implicated in the said offence as alleged against him. He submits that prior to coming into government service, applicant was running pesticide shop at village Bhatgaon and during that period he has purchased some pesticides from the shop of complainant for selling purpose. He repaid some amount of the outstanding amount, however, some amount could not be paid. Report is lodged with ill-intention giving color of criminal case of the matter of civil dispute with regard to commercial transaction. He also submits that applicant has handed over some cheque which dishonored against which complainant has also filed a complaint under Section 138 of the Negotiable Instrument Act. Applicant is a government servant, he will co-operate with investigation. There is no criminal antecedents against applicant, hence, he may be enlarged on anticipatory bail.

4. On the other hand, learned State counsel opposes the submission of counsel for applicant and would submit that there is specific allegation that applicant fraudulently not paying the amount even after purchasing the goods from complainant.

5. I have heard learned counsel for the respective parties and also perused the documents enclosed along with bail application.

6. On due consideration of the facts and circumstances of the case, nature of allegation, submission of learned counsel for the parties, without commenting anything on merits, I am inclined to allow this anticipatory bail application.

7. Accordingly, application is allowed and it is directed that in the event of arrest of applicant in connection with the crime in question (391/2026), he shall be released on anticipatory bail by the Officer arresting him on his executing a personal bond in the sum of ₹25,000/- with one surety in the like sum to the satisfaction of the concerned arresting Officer. Applicant shall also abide by the following conditions:

(i) that the applicant shall make himself available for interrogation before the Investigation Officer as and when required;

(ii) that the applicant 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 facts to the Court or to any police officer;

(iii) that the applicant shall not act, in any manner, which will be prejudicial to fair and expeditious trial; and

(iv) that the applicant shall appear before the trial Court on each and every date given to him by the said Court till disposal of the trial.

8. Office is directed to send a certified copy of this order to the trial Court concerned for necessary information and compliance forthwith.

Sd/-

(**Parth Prateem Sahu**)
JUDGE

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