2026:AHC:226633

HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT ALLAHABAD

CRIMINAL MISC. ANTICIPATORY BAIL APPLICATION U/S 482 BNSS No. - 5346 of 2026

Ritik

.....Applicant(s)

Versus

State Of U.P. And 3 Others

.....Opposite Party(s)

Counsel for Applicant(s)	:	Ashok Kumar Gupta
Counsel for Opposite Party(s)	:	Sunil Kumar Gaur, G.A.

Court No. - 71

HON'BLE VIVEK KUMAR SINGH, J.

1. Heard Sri Ashok Kumar Gupta, learned counsel for the applicant, Sri Sunil Kumar Gaur, learned counsel appearing for the informant and learned A.G.A for the State and perused the record.

2. Though opportunity was granted to the learned counsel for the informant for filing counter affidavit but no counter affidavit has been filed on behalf of the informant.

3. Rejoinder affidavit filed today to the counter affidavit filed by State of U.P. is taken on record.

4. The present application has been filed on behalf of the applicant in Case Crime No. 168 of 2022, under Sections 363, 376 of I.P.C. and Section 3/4 of POCSO Act, Police Station - Rakabganj, District Agra, with a prayer to grant him anticipatory bail.

5. Learned counsel for the applicant submits that the applicant is absolutely innocent and has been falsely implicated in the present case. He has nothing to do with the alleged offence in spite of that the police are trying to arrest the applicant. It is further submitted that a false case was registered against him and that he was not arrested by the police during course of investigation. In pursuance of order dated 01.02.2023 passed by the Division Bench of this Court in Crl. Misc. Writ Petition No. 1374 of 2023. The chargesheet has been submitted in this case on

26.05.2025 and cognizance has been taken by the court concerned. The victim did not level any allegation against the applicant that she was subjected to rape by the applicant, rather she stated that she left her house on her own will and went to Allahabad. The marriage between the victim and the applicant was solemnized in Arya Samaj temple. They went to Allahabad High Court. They lived together as husband and wife. The victim claimed herself to be aged about 18 years when her statements under Section 161 of Cr.P.C. and 164 of Cr.P.C. were recorded, therefore, no prima facie offence is made out against the applicant. Learned counsel for the applicant further submits that the applicant undertakes to cooperate during investigation and trial and shall appear as and when required by the Investigating Agency or the Court concerned. It has also been stated that, in case the applicant is granted anticipatory bail, he shall not misuse the liberty of bail, shall cooperate with the investigation, and shall abide by all the conditions that may be imposed by the Court.

6. On the other hand, learned A.G.A. as well as learned counsel appearing for the informant opposed the application for anticipatory bail, however, they do not dispute the factual aspect.

7. I have heard the rival submissions of both sides and perused the record.

8. In **Aman Preet Singh v. CBI, (2022) 13 SCC 764,** the Hon'ble Apex Court has held that :

> *"11. A reading of the aforesaid shows that it is the guiding principle for a Magistrate while exercising powers under Section 170CrPC which had been set out. The Magistrate or the Court empowered to take cognizance or try the accused has to accept the charge-sheet forthwith and proceed in accordance with the procedure laid down under Section 173CrPC. It has been rightly observed that in such a case the Magistrate or the Court is required to invariably issue a process of summons and not warrant of arrest. In case he seeks to exercise the discretion of issuing warrants of arrest, he is required to record the reasons as contemplated under Section 87 Cr.P.C that the accused has either been absconding or shall not obey the summons or has refused to appear despite proof of due service of summons upon him. In fact the observations in sub-para (iii) above by the High Court are in the nature of caution.*

> *12. In sofar as the present case is concerned and the general principles under Section 170Cr.P.C, the most apposite observations are in sub-para (v) of the High Court judgment in the context of an accused in a non-bailable offence whose custody was not required during the period of investigation. In such a scenario, it is appropriate that the accused is released on bail as the circumstances of his having not been arrested during investigation or not being produced in custody are itself sufficient to entitle him to be released on bail. The rationale has been succinctly set out that if a person has been enlarged and free for many years and has not even been arrested during investigation, to suddenly direct his arrest and to be incarcerated merely because charge-sheet has been filed would be contrary to the governing principles for grant of bail. We could not agree more with this."*

9. Considering the settled principle of law regarding anticipatory bail, submissions of the learned counsel for the parties, nature of accusation, role of applicant and all attending facts and circumstances of the case, without expressing any opinion on merits, and the case of the applicant is squarely covered by the aforesaid judgments, a case for anticipatory bail is made out.

10. Accordingly, the anticipatory bail application is **allowed** with following directions:-

(i) In the event of arrest/appearance of the applicant-**Ritik** involved in aforesaid case shall be released on anticipatory bail till the conclusion of trial, before the competent Court on his furnishing a personal bond of Rs.50,000/- with two sureties each of the like amount to the satisfaction of the court concerned;

(ii) The applicant shall co-operate during trial and shall report to the court concerned as and when required for the purpose of fair trial.

(iii) 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 from disclosing such facts to the Court; and

(iv) The applicant shall not leave India without the previous permission of

the Court.

11. In default or misuse of any of the conditions, the Public Prosecutor/ Investigating Officer/ first informant-complainant is at liberty to file appropriate application for cancellation of anticipatory bail granted to the applicant, before the concerned court.

(Vivek Kumar Singh,J.)

November 2, 2026
Lalit Shukla

Digitally signed by :-
LALIT KUMAR SHUKLA
High Court of Judicature at Allahabad