

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT PATNA
CRIMINAL MISCELLANEOUS No.20517 of 2026**

Arising Out of PS. Case No.-218 Year-2025 Thana- MANSI District- Khagaria

Sanjeev Kumar, S/o Ras Bihari Singh, Resident of village - Choti Balaha, P.S
- Mansi, District - Khagaria

... .. Petitioner/s

Versus

The State of Bihar

... .. Opposite Party/s

Appearance :

For the Petitioner/s : Mr.Brajesh Verma, Advocate
For the Opposite Party/s : Mr.Bishweshwar Ram, APP

**CORAM: HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE ASHOK KUMAR PANDEY
ORAL ORDER**

2 31-03-2026 Heard learned counsel for the petitioner and learned
APP for the State.

2. The petitioner has prayed for bail in connection with Mansi P.S. Case No. 218 of 2025 registered for the offence punishable under Section 30(f) of the Bihar Prohibition and Excise Act and further during investigation it was converted into Sections 8(c), 21(b) and 29 of the N.D.P.S. Act.

3. The case of the prosecution, in short, is that altogether 1200 files of 100 ml of RTX-SCEN Cough Syrup containing codeine were recovered from the Scorpio Vehicle.

4. Learned counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioner has submitted that petitioner is innocent and has committed no offence. He has been falsely implicated in this case. He is driver-cum-owner of the Scorpio from which the



recovery was made. Nothing has been recovered from his possession. Learned counsel for the petitioner has submitted that from perusal of the seizure list, it will transpire that the seizure witnesses are not independent witness rather they are police personnel. Police has also not followed the provision of Section 105 of B.N.S.S. while making the seizure. Petitioner is languishing in judicial custody since 07.09.2025.

5. Learned counsel for the petitioner has submitted that Under **Notification No. S.O. 826(E) dated 14.11.1985** under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act and Rules, 1985 that preparations are exempted as manufactured drugs provided the preparations contained the narcotic drugs to the extent permitted in respect of codeine under Entry No. 35. It is stated that codeine and *ethyle morphine* and their salts including *dionine* all dilutions and preparations are considered to be manufactured drugs except those which are compounded with one or more other ingredients and containing not more than 100 miligrams of the drugs per doses unit and with a concentration of not more than 2.5 % in undivided preparations and which have been established in therapeutic practice.

6. In this case, RTX-SCEN Cough Syrup has been recovered from the Scorpio Vehicle and the concentration of the



codeine in this drug is approximately 0.2% which is less than 2.5% as provided in the above notification.

7. Learned APP appearing for the State has vehemently the application for bail and has submitted that in the case of **Hira Singh and Anr. V. Union of India and Anr.**, the Hon'ble Supreme Court has held that entire non-toxic material which is mixed with the contraband will be considered as the contraband and as such, the quantity which has been recovered from the possession of this petitioner is commercial quantity.

8. In this regard, it is worth mentioning that in view of Section 2(d) of the N.D.P.S. Act, the drug itself is not narcotic drug then there is no jurisdictional basis for the case and the Court would not have a reason to go into the question of quantities. The Central Government has power to issue notification time to time.

9. Having heard learned counsel for the parties and considering the facts and circumstances of the case, this Court is inclined to enlarge the petitioner on bail. The above named petitioner is directed to be enlarged on bail on furnishing bail bond of Rs. 10,000/- (Rs. ten thousand only) with two sureties of the like amount each to the satisfaction of the learned Exclusive Special Excise Judge-I, Khagaria in connection with



Mansi P.S. Case No. 218 of 2025.

10. Before parting, it is very strange that the cases where cough syrups containing codeine are recovered, the police is invariably filing cases under N.D.P.S. Act whereas in view of the notification of Central Government (*supra*) concentration of codeine being less than 2.5%, the quantity does not come under the ambit of contraband. Cough syrup containing codeine is only a schedule-H drug for which, the shopkeeper has to maintain register and he must be a licensed one. Such type of cases should be filed under Drugs and Cosmetic Act. It is only the violation of Drugs and Cosmetic Act whereas, police is invariably misusing the procedure.

(Ashok Kumar Pandey, J)

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