

**Court No. - 73**

**Case :- CRIMINAL MISC ANTICIPATORY BAIL APPLICATION U/S 438 CR.P.C. No. - 36 of 2021**

**Applicant :- Mohd. Chand @ Chand Mohammad**

**Opposite Party :- State of U.P. and Another**

**Counsel for Applicant :- Ali Qambar Zaidi**

**Counsel for Opposite Party :- G.A.**

**Hon'ble Siddharth,J.**

Heard learned counsel for the applicant and learned AGA for the State.

**Order on Criminal Misc. Exemption Application**

This exemption application is allowed.

**Order on Criminal Misc. Anticipatory Bail Application**

The instant anticipatory bail application has been filed on behalf of the applicant, **Mohd. Chand @ Chand Mohammad** with a prayer to release him on bail in **Case Crime No. 390 of 2020, under Sections 153-A, 295, 505, 419, 420, 467, 468, 471 IPC, Police Station Barsana, District- Mathura**, during pendency of trial.

Prior notice of this bail application was served in the office of Government Advocate and as per Chapter XVIII, Rule 18 of the Allahabad High Court Rules and as per direction dated 20.11.2020 of this Court in ***Criminal Misc. Anticipatory Bail Application U/S 438 Cr.P.C. No. 8072 of 2020, Govind Mishra @ Chhotu Versus State of U.P.***, hence, this anticipatory bail application is being heard. Grant of further time to the learned A.G.A as per Section 438 (3) Cr.P.C. (U.P. Amendment) is not required.

There is allegation against the applicant that he along with co-accused, Faisal Khan, have performed Namaz inside the temple without consent of priest and its photographs were made it viral. The news was shown on the television. Thereafter first information report has been lodged on the allegation that this act of the applicant and co-accused shows disrespect for the religious feeling of other community and there is possibility of deterioration in the communal harmony. It is also suspected that the applicants are receiving foreign funds.

Learned counsel for the applicant has submitted that co-accused, Faisal Khan, is a renowned social activist who has revived Khudai Khidmatgar movement of India and is working for maintaining communal harmony for the last 25 years. Applicant is his companion. In this connection he undertook yatra for visiting temples. He was offered prasad and lunch by Chief Priest of the temple and he also bestowed blessings on him as clear from photographs in dispute. He has further submitted that applicant has been falsely implicated in this case. Only on the basis of photographs which went viral the applicant cannot be said to have intention to disturb the communal harmony of the society. He did not entered into the sanctum sanctorum of the temple rather he performed Namaz outside of the temple with the permission of the priest of the temple as clear from the viral photographs. The allegation of receiving foreign funds is without basis. Co-accused, Faisal Khan, was arrested and enlarged on bail by this Court vide CRIMINAL MISC. BAIL APPLICATION No. - 47754 of 2020. The applicant has definite apprehension that he may be arrested by the police any time.

Learned AGA has opposed the prayer for anticipatory bail of the applicant. He has submitted that in view of the seriousness of the allegations made against the applicant, he is not entitled to grant of anticipatory bail. The apprehension of the applicant is not founded on any material on record. Only on the basis of imaginary fear anticipatory bail cannot be granted.

After considering the rival submissions this court finds that there is a case registered/about to be registered against the applicant. It cannot be definitely said when the police may apprehend him. After the lodging of FIR the arrest can be made by the police at will. There is no definite period fixed for the police to arrest an accused against whom an FIR has been lodged. The courts have repeatedly held that arrest should be the last option for the police and it should be restricted to those exceptional cases where arresting the accused is imperative or his custodial interrogation is required. Irrational and indiscriminate arrests are gross violation of human rights. In the case of **Joginder Kumar v. State of Uttar Pradesh AIR 1994 SC 1349** the Apex Court has referred to the third report of National Police Commission wherein it is mentioned that arrests by the police in India is one of the chief source of corruption in the police. The report suggested that, by and large, nearly 60 percent of the

arrests were either unnecessary or unjustified and that such unjustified police action accounted for 43.2 percent of expenditure of the jails. Personal liberty is a very precious fundamental rights and it should be curtailed only when it becomes imperative. According to the peculiar facts and circumstances of the peculiar case the arrest of an accused should be made.

Hence without expressing any opinion on the merits of the case and considering the nature of accusations and antecedents of applicant, he is directed to be enlarged on anticipatory bail as per the Constitution Bench judgment of the Apex Court in the case of ***Sushila Aggarwal vs. State (NCT of Delhi)- 2020 SCC Online SC 98***. The future contingencies regarding anticipatory bail being granted to applicant shall also be taken care of as per the aforesaid judgment of the Apex Court.

In the event of arrest, the applicant shall be released on anticipatory bail. Let the applicant involved in the aforesaid crime be released on anticipatory bail on furnishing a personal bond with two sureties each in the like amount to the satisfaction of the trial court concerned with the following conditions:-

1. The applicant shall not leave the country during the currency of trial without prior permission from the concerned trial Court.
2. The applicant shall surrender his passport, if any, to the concerned Court forthwith. His passport will remain in custody of the concerned Court.
3. 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 from disclosing such facts to the Court or to any police officer;
4. The applicant shall file an undertaking to the effect that he shall not seek any adjournment on the dates fixed for evidence and the witnesses are present in court. In case of default of this condition, it shall be open for the trial court to treat it as abuse of liberty of bail and pass orders in accordance with law to ensure presence of the applicant.
5. In case, the applicant misuses the liberty of bail, the Court concerned may take appropriate action in

accordance with law and judgment of Apex Court in the case of ***Sushila Aggarwal vs. State (NCT of Delhi)-2020 SCC Online SC 98.***

6. The applicant shall remain present, in person, before the trial court on the dates fixed for (i) opening of the case, (ii) framing of charge and (iii) recording of statement under Section 313 Cr.P.C. If in the opinion of the trial court default of this condition is deliberate or without sufficient cause, then it shall be open for the trial court to treat such default as abuse of liberty of his bail and proceed against him in accordance with law.

7. The party shall file computer generated copy of such order downloaded from the official website of High Court Allahabad.

8. The concerned Court/Authority/Official shall verify the authenticity of such computerized copy of the order from the official website of High Court Allahabad and shall make a declaration of such verification in writing.

**Order Date :- 19.1.2021**

Ruchi Agrahari