

IN THE COURT OF SESSIONS JUDGE, PATNA

Anticipatory Bail Petition No.1605 of 2026.

Rakesh Upadhyay

..... **Petitioner.**

Versus

The State of Bihar

**Order
No.**

Date

O R D E R

06 05-05-2026

1. The **petitioner, Rakesh Upadhyay**, seeks anticipatory bail in connection with ***Gandhi Maidan P.S. Case No. 52 of 2026***, registered under Sections 316(2), 318(4), 336(3), 338 read with 3(5) of the *Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (BNS)*.
2. From perusal of the record, it appears that the present anticipatory bail application was filed on 18.04.2026 and subsequently transferred to the Court of the learned District & Additional Sessions Judge-II, Patna. In the meantime, other bail applications concerning similar matters arising from different police cases were filed and remain pending before this Court. Consequently, the present anticipatory bail application was recalled by way of an Administrative Order and has now been taken up for consideration for the first time.
3. The prosecution case, in brief, is that the informants **Nitin Ranjan, Kumar Ujjwal, Jai Vardhan Srivastava, Nishit Kumar, and Jyoti Mishra**, all residents of Patna, were induced by co-accused **Rahul Kalra**, Managing Director of *Rondella Laundromat Pvt. Ltd.* (operating under the brand "*Washing Xpress*"), along with his associates including **Achin Kalra, Anil Kalra, Ruchika Prakash Kalra, Ranjit Kumar Jha, Prem Kumar Singh, Rakesh Upadhyay (petitioner), Kamal Kishore Prasad, Usha Prasad, Dheeraj Kumar (new director)**, and others. The accused allegedly persuaded the informants to invest in the franchise and expansion of *Washing Xpress* by making false assurances of profitable returns. Relying on these representations, the informants entered into agreements and collectively paid approximately **Rs. 1,85,76,000/-**. It is alleged that the accused, acting in conspiracy, misappropriated the funds and subsequently sold the business to **Dheeraj Kumar** without informing the investors. When the informants demanded repayment, the accused avoided them, gave false assurances, switched off their phones, and absconded from their office. The informants firmly believe that the accused have committed cheating and criminal breach of trust with no intention of returning the money.

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4. Learned counsel for the petitioner contends that the main allegations are directed against co-accused Rahul Kalra, who is alleged to have received the funds. It is further submitted that the petitioner himself is a victim, having been deceived by the said co-accused. Learned counsel argues that the petitioner invested his hard-earned money in the purported business at the behest of Rahul Kalra and his wife, Ruchika Prakash Kalra. It is also pointed out that other co-accused has already been granted interim protection by this Court vide order dated 25.04.2026 in A.B.P. No. 1731 of 2026, and that the petitioner's case stands on a stronger footing. Moreover, the petitioner is stated to have an unblemished criminal record.
5. For a proper consideration of the anticipatory bail application, the office is directed to **call for the case diary** along with details of the petitioner's criminal antecedent from the Investigating Officer.
6. At this juncture, learned counsel for the petitioner seeks interim protection from arrest pending further proceedings.
7. Having regard to the aforesaid facts and circumstances of the case; nature of accusation against the petitioner; submissions of learned counsel for the petitioner; and clean criminal antecedent of the petitioner, ***interim protection from arrest is granted*** to the petitioner in **Gandhi Maidan P.S. Case No. 52 of 2026 until the next date** of hearing. The petitioner is directed to cooperate with the Investigating Officer and remain available whenever required by the police.
8. List this matter on 14.05.2026 along with B.P No.1108/2026.

(Dictated)

Sd/-

(Rupesh Deo)
Sessions Judge, Patna

Date of Order	05-05-2026
Date of Reserving Order	NA
Uploading Date	05-05-2026
Uploaded by	Amjad/-