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	Decided on	15.07.2026
	Duration	Year Month Days

**IN THE COURT OF ADDITIONAL CHIEF JUDICIAL
MAGISTRATE,
SHAHERA, DIST. PANCHMAHALS**

CRIMINAL CASE NO. 1071/2024

Exh-

Complainant:

Government of Gujarat.

VERSUS

Accused:

Bhuriben W/o Mohanbhai Hirabhai Pagi.

Age: 35, Occupation: Housewife.

At. Bodidra Khurd, Ta. Shahera, Dist. Panchmahals.

SUBJECT: Offense U/s 65 AA of Gujarat Prohibition Act.

APPEARANCE:

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Mrs. K. S. Bhatiya : Learned APP for Prosecution

Mr. R. L. Parmar : Learned Advocate for Accused

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J U D G M E N T

1. The brief facts of the prosecution case are that, on 29.03.2024 informar- Vipulkumar Hanumansinh with other police personnel were on patrolling, meanwhile, got a tip off that the accused person, Bhuriben W/o Mohanbhai Hirabhai Pagi, is illegally possessing and selling the Indian made Foreign Liquor (IMFL) at village Bodidra Khurd. In accordance with this information, police personnel with the Panchas, raided at the house of the accused where she was not present. Police personnel entered into the said house and seized 23 quarters of 50/50 Orange Flavour Vodka worth of Rs. 2300/- from which one bottle taken as a sample and sealed it by performing Panch Rojkaam in presence of Panchas. This act of the accused is contravene of the Gujrat Prohibition Act hence, police registered an offence vide C.R.No.0301/2024 under Section 65AA of Gujarat Prohibition Act at Shahera Police Station against the accused and thereafter investigation was carried out. Finally, the chargesheet was filed in this Court against the accused.
2. On issuing the summons, the accused appeared before this Court with his advocate. She has been provided copy of Police report and other documents of the case under Section 207 of Cr.P.C. Thereafter, as per Section 240 of Cr. P.C. Charge was framed against the accused at Exh-03. Accused denied content of the charge in her plea which was recorded at Exh-04. Hence, the trial has been proceeded and evidence

has been recorded.

3. The following oral evidence adduced by the prosecution:

P.W.	Name of Witness	Exh.
01	Vipulkumar Hanumansinh	13
02	Mahendrabhai Motibhai	05
03	Vikrambhai Arjunbhai	07
04	Manharbhai Dalsukhbhai	22
05	Babubhai Rayjibhai	19

3.1. Following documentary evidence is produced by the prosecution:

No.	Name of document	Exh.
01	Complaint	14
02	Panchnama	06

4. After recording the evidence of the prosecution learned APP orally declared the closure of prosecution evidence. Thereafter, further statement of the accused U/s 313 of the Criminal Procedure Code is recorded in which accused has denied all the allegations against her and also declared that she is not willing to adduce any evidence for her defense.

5. Heard the oral argument of both the sides:

5.1. Learned APP argued that prosecution witnesses has proved FIR and Panchnama and they are remained unchallenged. Further stated that If Panch witnees turned hostile whole case of prosecution cannot be thrown out. Prosecution has proved its case with strong evidence and proved guilty to the accused, hence, she may be punished as per the law.

5.2. Learned Advocate of the accused vehemently argued that prosecution miserably failed to prove case against the accused. As prosecution has not produce a single documentary evidence regarding the ownership of the place of the raid. Prosecution failed to prove Panchnama. In these circumstances, police personnel cannot be believe and relying on the prosecution evidence cannot be said that prosecution has proved its case hence prosecution failed to prove case against the accused and accused may be acquitted.

6. For the final conclusion of the case the following issues are framed.

(I) Whether the prosecution proves that the accused person was having in illegal possession of 23 quarters of 50/50 Orange Flavour Vodka worth of Rs. 2300/- on 29.03.2024 at village Bodidra Khurd in her resident house and made an offence U/s 65 AA of the Gujarat Prohibition Act?

(II) What order?

7. The following answer is concluded all the above mentioned issues.

(I) Negative

(II) As per final order.

Reasonings

Issues No. 1 & 2-

8. To prove its case, prosecution has examined Panch witness namely Mahendrabhai Motibhai vide Exh-05 & Vikrambhai Arjunbhai vide Exh-07. The panch witnesses denied the

prosecution case and stated that no prohibition Muddamal i.e. IMFL has been seized in presence of them. They admitted the signature on Panchnama which is produced by Exh-06.

- 8.1** Prosecution witness Mr. Vipulkumar Hanumansinh who lodged the FIR against the accused has examined vide Exh-13. In his chief examination he stated as per the fact of the FIR which is produced vide Exh-14. While in cross-examination on behalf of the accused he admitted that- the place of raid is within residential area and many people reside in surrounding, name of the panch witnesses have not been mentioned in the FIR, no any documentary evidence regarding ownership of place of raid is not on record.
- 8.2.** Prosecution has examined Police witness vide Exh-22 wherein he stated in chief examination as per the FIR which is produced vide Exh-14. While in cross-examination on behalf of the accused he admitted that- the place of raid is within residential area and many people reside in surrounding, name of the panch witnesses have not been mentioned in the FIR, no any documentary evidence regarding ownership of place of raid is not on record.
- 8.3.** Prosecution has examined IO- Babubhai Rayjibhai vide Exh-19 wherein he stated in chief examination as per the FIR and further stated that on getting investigation he recorded statement of the relevant witnesses and on getting enough evidence against the accused filed chargesheet. While in cross examination on behalf of the accused he admitted that- place of raid is within residential area and

many people reside there, no documentary evidence of ownership of place of raid was on record.

8.4 Looking to the evidence of the prosecution side it is clear that prosecution has not produced any single documentary evidence of ownership of the place of the raid from where IMFL has been seized. It is the case of the prosecution that at the time of raid accused was not present. Further, Panch witness has not supported the prosecution case and he declared hostile. The prosecution has failed to prove the panchnama vide Exh-06. Prosecution has failed to prove the said muddamal as a known brand of IMFL or original Lable of the said muddamal. No forensic report has been produced from which one can make inference the sample collected by the Investigation Officer is of Indian Made Foreign Liquor. In this circumstances, it cannot be presumed that the Muddamal seized by police was Indian Made Foreign Liquor (IMFL) and it was in the possession of the accused.

Hence, at this juncture, it is pertinent to refer the Judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court in para 15 of the case of **"Satish Mehra Vs. Delhi Administration & Anr** 31.07.1996 in which it has been held that *"when the judge is failry certian that there is no prospect of the case ending in conviction the valuable time of the Court should not be wasted for holding a trial only for the purpose of formaly completing the procedure to pronounce the conclusion on a future date."* Perusing the the judgment and observation of the Hon'ble Supreme Court it can be said that whenever court finds that there is no sufficient evidence and the final

result would not be concluded in conviction, the court should not waste its valuable time to prolong the trial proceedings.

9. As discussed the evidence and facts of the case above, this court has come to conclusion that prosecution failed to prove it's case against the accused and so answer issue No.1 in negative and hence passed the following final order.

Final Order

1. The accused, Bhuriben W/o Mohanbhai Hirabhai Pagi, U/s 255 (1) of the Criminal Procedure Code, is hereby acquitted from the alleged offence U/s 65 AA of the Gujarat Prohibition Act.
2. Mudammal article of Liquor shall be destroyed after the appeal period is completed.
3. Accused person is hereby directed to submit the bail bond U/s 437-A of the Criminal Procedure Code till the appeal period.

Pronounced in the open Court on 15th Day of June, 2026

Date : 15/07/2026

Place:-Shahera.

[A. R. Tapiawala]

Code No. GJ-00733

Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate,
Shahera, Panchmahals