

IN THE COURT OF SESSIONS JUDGE, PATNA

Anticipatory Bail Petition No.2786 of 2026.

1. Shruti Dhar Pathak

2. Smt. Shalini Pathak

3. Vidyadhar Pathak

..... Petitioners.

Versus

The State of Bihar

**Order
No.
08 Date
14-08-2026**

ORDER

- 1. The three petitioners, a father, his son and daughter-in-law, seek anticipatory bail in connection with Kotwali P.S. Case No. 420 of 2026, registered under Sections 406 and 420 read with Section 34 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860.**
- 2. Heard Sri Nihal Deo, learned counsel for the petitioners and Sri Rajesh Kumar, learned Public Prosecutor for the State.**
- 3. Prosecution story, as per the written report is that the informant Anand Pandit who is engaged in the marble and tile fitting business, came into contact with accused Shridhar Pathak. Pathak allegedly introduced himself as a chartered accountant and proprietor of *New Era Trading House*, a firm purportedly engaged in share market trading and recognized by SEBI. He is said to have induced the informant and his wife to invest in the firm by promising a 100% return within a short period.**

It is further alleged that co-accused Rajiv Kumar @ Raju resided with Shridhar Pathak and both frequently visited the informant's home and office. Relying on their assurances, the informant and his wife invested approximately ₹1.72 crore between June and September 2024, ₹82 lakh through bank transfers to *New Era Trading House* and ₹90 lakh in cash. The accused allegedly failed to return the money, closed their office, switched off their phones, and absconded. The informant later discovered that several others had been defrauded in a similar manner.

Further, when the informant and his wife visited Shridhar Pathak's residence to demand repayment, petitioner no. 3 Vidyadhar Pathak allegedly threatened them with dire consequences, while his wife

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threatened to kill them. It is also alleged that the accused changed the firm's name and GST registration, to continue operations under *Angel Earning Finance*.

4. Learned counsel for the petitioners submits that the only non-bailable offences involved are under Sections 406 and 420 IPC, carrying a maximum sentence of seven years and triable by a Magistrate. He argues that the primary allegations concern co-accused Shridhar Pathak, while the petitioners have been implicated merely due to their familiar relationship with him. The only allegation against them is of issuing threats when the informant visited Shridhar Pathak's residence. The petitioners have been living separately from co-accused Sridhar Pathak and maintain a separate mess and independent business. It is further submitted that petitioner no. 1 is 71 years old, petitioner no. 2 is a woman and all petitioners have clean criminal antecedents.
5. The learned Public Prosecutor opposes the prayer for grant of anticipatory bail to the petitioners. However, he fairly submits that the petitioners have clean criminal antecedent as recorded by the Investigating Officer in para 28 of the case diary.
6. Having regard to the facts and circumstances of the case, the nature of the offences and the punishment prescribed, nature of accusation against the petitioners, main allegation being against co-accused Sridhar Pathak and clean criminal antecedent the prayer for grant of anticipatory bail of the above-named petitioners is **allowed**. It is ordered that in the event of arrest or surrender before the learned court below within four weeks from the date of receipt of this order, the above-named petitioners shall be released on bail on furnishing bail bond of Rs.10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand) each with two sureties of like amount each to the satisfaction of learned court below subject to the **following conditions:-**

- (i) One of the bailor shall be relative of the petitioners.

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(ii) Both the bailors shall provide their contact details- Mobile number/Whatsapp number, e-mail id (if available) **with an undertaking on affidavit** that these contact details shall not be changed till disposal of this case.

(iii) Petitioner no. 1 & 3 shall appear before the concerned police station every month and mark their attendance, till the completion of investigation.

(iv) If any of the above conditions are violated or facts stated in bail application are found false, the bail bond of the petitioners shall be cancelled.

(Dictated)

Sd/-

**(Anamika T.)
Sessions Judge, Patna**

Date of Order	14-08-2026
Date of Reserving Order	12-08-2026
Uploading Date	14-08-2026
Uploaded by	Rahul/-