In The Court of Additional Sessions Judge Court No.-1, Gonda

Bail Application No. 1273 of 2026

CNR No. UPGD01-003703-2026

Ravindra S/o Sadhuram, R/o Katiyamau, Balamau, District Hardoi. **... Accused / applicant**

Versus

State of Uttar Pradesh...**Opposite party**

Date: 08.06.2026

The present bail application has been moved on behalf of accused/applicant **Ravindra** U/s 483 of the Bharatiya Nagarik suraksha sanhita in case crime no.- 715/2025 U/s- 318(4), 336(3), 338, 339, 340(2), 3(5), 111 B.N.S., Police Station Kotwali Nagar, District- Gonda. An Affidavit is also annexed to the bail application given by one Vinod Kumar who is cousin of the present accused.

According to the prosecution case, the First Information Report was lodged on the basis of a written complaint moved by Pramod Kumar Sharma, State Tax Officer with the allegations that during a campaign against scrap mafias conducted on 04.09.2025 on the directions of the Principal secretary, State tax, Government of Uttar Pradesh, the Mobile Squad Unit stopped a vehicle bearing Registration No. CH 01, TC-9871 on 05.09.2025 at 01:25 a.m. at Munnan Khan Chauraha for search which was found transporting mixed old iron scrap with faulty documents. During checking, driver of the said vehicle Aryendra Narayan Mishra stated that he had loaded old tin-topped iron scrap from Nawabganj, Gonda and the goods were to be unloaded at Mandi Govindgarh, Punjab. On being asked about the documents of the loaded goods the driver of the vehicle produced tax invoice dated 02.09.2025 issued by supplier firm Vidya Traders in favour of recipient firm Aviraj trading along with transportation documents and E-Way Bill. On checking the E-way bill dashboard of the departmental portal, it was found that the e-way bill related to above transaction has been downloaded. In the minutes of the review meeting convened on 08.09.2025 by the Principal Secretary, State Tax, Uttar Pradesh, instructions have been given to take action against the actual culprits involved in tax evasion in relation to iron scrap tax evaded vehicles and to register FIR as soon as possible. The said vehicle is registered in the name of Vidya Kumari Sau D/o Dharam Lal Sahu. the documents reflected dispatch of good from raipur, Chhattisgarh to Himachal Pradesh but the vehicle had not entered the state of chhattisgarsh, and instead movement of vehicle was traced within Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. Weight of goods found in the vehicle was 11,770 kilograms whereas the tax invoice reflected weight of 10,010 kilograms, from which it was found that the vehicle did not enter Chhattisgarh and confirms the driver's statement that the goods in question were loaded from Nawabganj, Gonda. Thus, the goods were being transported using forged documents, with discrepancies in the loading location. This suggests the possibility of concealing the source of the goods or falsifying records. According to the registration cancellation notice number ZA2209250XXXXXL dated 05.09.2025 issued by the Superintendent, CGST Range-1, Raipur, the seller firm in question, Sarvashri Vidya Traders (GSTIN: 22NRDPS9081J1Z2), was found to be in operation at its declared main place of business, 48, Sector-2, Jagriti Vihar, Devendra Nagar, Raipur, Chhattisgarh. The statement given by the driver and the examination of the documents submitted by him further strengthen the possibility that the goods were being transported not on an individual basis but in a pre-planned and organized manner. It appears prima facie that the individual(s)/group(s) concerned are involved in tax evasion and economic crimes, which constitute a serious attempt to harm the state's revenue. Therefore, prima facie it appears that some individuals or gangs are involved in organized economic crimes, violating the Goods and Services Tax Act and causing loss to the state revenue. These activities prima facie fall under the category of tax evasion and organized economic crimes, against which strict action under relevant legal provisions is absolutely necessary. Therefore, it is requested that necessary legal action be taken by registering a case under relevant sections against the above driver/vehicle owner, the owners of both firms, and other unknown individuals/traders/organizations/transporters involved in this tax evasion.

On the basis of aforesaid information, First Information Report was registered as Case Crime No. 715 of 2025, under Section 318(4) B.N.S. at Police Station Kotwali Nagar, District Gonda, against above vehicle driver, owner and owner of above mentioned both firms. During the course of investigation Sections 336(3), 338, 339, 340(2), 3(5), 111 B.N.S. were added and also the name of present accused came into light.

Grounds taken in the present bail application are that accused/applicant is innocent and has been falsely implicated in the present case. Applicant/accused has neither committed any offence as alleged nor has he participated in any alleged act of tax evasion or preparation. The implication of applicant/accused appears to be the result of suspicion and assumption only. There is no direct evidence in the FIR demonstrating conscious involvement of the present applicant/accused. There is no direct allegation against present accused/applicant. The prosecution case is founded upon tax invoices, e-weay bills, weighment slips, portal tracking date, GST registration particulars and interception reports. No incriminating article, forged seal, fabricated document, unaccounted cash or any other material connecting the present applicant with the alleged offence has been recovered from the conscious possession of the applicant. The entire case is based upon documentary material already seized and preserved by the authorities and no useful purpose would be served by keeping the applicant in continued judicial custody. The allegation is based on departmental assumptions and interception of commercial and GST related documents collected during inspection of the vehicle. The mere existence of discrepancy in route movement or variation in weight, by itself, cannot conclusively establish criminal intention, conspiracy or conscious involvement of the present applicant in the alleged offence. There is no allegation in the FIR demonstrating that the present applicant/accused is the proprietor, authorized signatory, beneficiary or person in control of the concerned firms or transportation document. All the relevant documentary evidence already stands seized and preserved by the prosecution department. the case does not rest upon vulnerable eyewitness testimony. Hence, there exists no reasonable apprehension that the applicant would interfere with investigation or tamper with prosecution evidence if enlarged on bail. Accused/applicant is law abiding citizens and has not been previously convicted in any offence of similar nature. His criminal antecedents, if any, are liable to be explained separately. He is entitled to the benefit of clean antecedents and presumption of innocence guaranteed under law. Accordingly, prayed that accused/applicant be released on bail.

Learned ADGC (Crl.) for State vehemently opposed the bail and prayed that the present bail application be rejected.

Heard learned counsel for the accused/applicant and learned ADGC (Crl.) for the State and perused the material available on record.

It transpires from the perusal of record that the allegation against present applicant/accused is transporting goods using forged documents, concealing the source of the goods, and falsifying records to evade GST. The applicant/accused is not named in the First Information Report, but his name was came into light during the course of investigation. The investigation in the case is still ongoing. According to the police station report, there is no criminal antecedent of present applicant/accused. Accused is languishing in jail since 07.05.2026. Bail applications of the co-accused persons

Ramtirath Barnwal, Suraj alias Devi Prasad Gupta, Shubham Gupta, Aryendra Narayan Mishra were already allowed by this Court. The role of present applicant/accused is not different from the other co-accused persons who enlarged on bail. Therefore, considering the facts and circumstances and without expressing any opinion on the merits of the case, the grounds for granting bail to the accused are found to be sufficient. Accordingly, the bail application submitted by the accused is liable to be allowed.

Order

The present bail application moved on behalf of accused/applicant **Ravindra** in Case Crime No.-715/2025, U/s-318(4), 336(3), 338, 339, 340(2), 3(5), 111 Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), Police Station Kotwali Nagar, District- Gonda is hereby allowed. Accused/applicant be enlarged on bail on furnishing personal bond to the tune of Rs.50,000/-, and two sureties of the like amount each to the satisfaction of the court concerned with the following conditions:-

1. The accused/applicant shall execute a bond to undertake to attend the hearings;
2. The applicant/accused shall not commit any offence similar to the offence of which he is accused or suspected of the commissions; and
3. The applicant/accused 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 or tamper with the evidence.
4. Applicant/accused shall not seek any adjournment on the dates fixed for evidence when the witnesses are present in court.
5. Accused/applicant shall remain present before the trial court on each date fixed, either personally or through his counsel.
6. Accused/applicant shall remain present in person on the date fixed for (i) opening of the case (ii) framing of charge and (iii) recording of statement under Section 313 CrPC.

In case of default of any of the above condition without sufficient cause, it shall be opened for the prosecution to proceed against him in accordance with law.

(Surya Prakash Singh)

Date: 08-06-2026

Addl. Sessions Judge Court No.-1
Gonda
(J.O. Code- UP 6272)