



2026:CGHC:3707



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NAFR

HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH AT BILASPUR

MCRCA No. 112 of 2026

Devendra Janghel S/o Jagtaram Aged About 36 Years R/o Village - Dhodha,
Police Station And Tahsil - Gandai, District - Khairagarh - Chhuikhadan -
Gandai (C.G.) **...Applicant**

versus

State Of Chhattisgarh Through - District Magistrate, District - Khairagarh -
Chhuikhadan - Gandai (C.G.). **...Non-applicant**

For Applicant	: Mr. Veer Verma, Advocate.
For Non-Applicant/State	: Ms. Vaishali Mahilong, Dy. G.A.
For Objector	: Mr. Kamlesh Patel, Advocate.

Hon'ble Mr. Ramesh Sinha, Chief Justice

Order on Board

21.01.2026

1. This first anticipatory bail application under Section 482 of the Bhartiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 has been filed by the applicant, who is apprehending his arrest in connection with Crime No. 402/2025 registered at Police Station – Gandai District – Khairagarh (C.G.) for the offences punishable under Sections 318(4), 338, 336(3), 340(2), 61(2) of the BNS. 2023.



- 2.** Case of the prosecution, in brief, is that on 21.11.2025 at about 5:20 PM, the complainant Rajkumar Solanki, Deputy Director (Agriculture)-cum-Secretary, District Level Grievance Redressal Committee, Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, District Khairagarh-Chhuikhadan-Gandai, submitted a written complaint stating that pursuant to letter No. /T-1/PMFBY/2025-26/1824 dated 27.08.2025 issued by the Office of the Collector, District Khairagarh-Chhuikhadan-Gandai, an inquiry was conducted into fake crop insurance in Village Dhodha, during which it was found that the applicant, in connivance with other accused persons including insured farmers, the CHC operator, cooperating farmers, and the insurance company representative, by adopting a fraudulent and conspiratorial modus operandi and by submitting forged documents, illegally obtained crop insurance benefits amounting to more than Rs. 6,00,000/-, whereupon on the basis of the said complaint and inquiry, Crime No. 402/2025 was registered at Police Station Gandai against the applicant and others, investigation was undertaken, a spot map was prepared, seizure proceedings were carried out, the original inquiry report was annexed, and statements of witnesses were recorded.
- 3.** Learned Counsel for the applicant submits that applicant is innocent and has been falsely implicated in the present case. He further submits, as the offence alleged is purely documentary in nature and he is ready and willing to cooperate fully with the investigation by furnishing all relevant documents and appearing before the investigating agency as and when directed; that the investigation is still pending and no charge-sheet has been filed, and grant of anticipatory bail will not prejudice or hamper the investigation since



the evidence mainly consists of official records already seized by the authorities; that the applicant apprehends undue harassment and humiliation in the event of arrest, which would cause irreparable damage to his reputation and livelihood, particularly when the matter pertains to an economic offence involving no violence or threat to public safety; that in similar cases relating to economic offences, anticipatory bail has been granted where custodial interrogation is not required, as held in *Arnesh Kumar v. State of Bihar* (2014) 8 SCC 273 and *Siddharam Satlingappa Mhetre v. State of Maharashtra* (2011) 1 SCC 694; that the applicant has no criminal antecedents, is a law-abiding citizen with deep roots in society, being a resident of Village Dhodha engaged in agriculture with family ties, and is not likely to abscond; that he undertakes to strictly abide by any conditions imposed by this Hon'ble Court, therefore, he prays for grant of bail.

4. On the other hand, learned State counsel as well as learned counsel for the objector opposed the bail application filed by the applicant.
5. I have heard learned counsel for the parties and perused the case diary.
6. Considering the facts & circumstances of the case, submissions of learned counsel for the parties and nature of dispute and materials available on record, without further commenting anything on merits, this Court find it appropriate to grant anticipatory bail to the applicant.
7. Accordingly, the instant MCRCA is **allowed** and it is directed that in the event of arrest of the applicant – **Devendra Janghel**, on executing a personal bond and one surety in the like sum to the satisfaction of



2026:CGHC:3707

the arresting Officer, he shall be released on bail on the following conditions:-

- (a) he 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 her from disclosing such fact to the Court.
- (b) he shall not act in any manner which will be prejudicial to fair and expeditious trial.
- (c) he shall appear before the trial Court on each and every date given to her by the said Court till disposal of the trial.
- (d) the applicant and the surety shall submit a copy of his adhaar card along with a coloured postcard full size photo having printed the adhaar number on it, which shall be verified by the trial Court.
- (e) he shall not involve himself in any offence of similar nature in future.

Sd/-
(Ramesh Sinha)
CHIEF JUSTICE