



HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH AT BILASPUR

MCRCA No. 342 of 2026

Jaikant Sahu S/o Sant Ram Sahu Aged About 31 Years R/o Ward No. 8
Near Durga Mandir, Gharghoda, Raigarh, District Raigarh C.G. Pin Code-
496111. **... Applicant**

versus

- 1** - State Of Chhattisgarh Through S.H.O. P.S. Kasdol, District Baloda
Bazar C.G. (Correctly Mentioned)
- 2** - Meenakshi Sahu D/o Sanjay Sahu R/o Kasdol, Balodabazar District
Balodabazar C.G. Pincode- 493335. **... Non-applicants**

Order Sheet

02/03/2026	1. Heard Mr. Vijay Satya Krishna Ojha with Mr. Priyanshu Oja, learned counsel for the applicant as well as Ms. Sameeksha Gupta, learned Panel Lawyer for the State/respondent. 2. This is the first anticipatory bail application under Section 482 of the Bhartiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita,



	2023 (BNSS) filed by the applicant, who is apprehending his arrest in connection with Crime No. 22/2026 registered at Police Station – Kasdol District – Baloda Bazar (C.G.) for the offence punishable under Sections 296, 3(5) and 85 of the BNS. 3. According to the case diary, the marriage of the complainant, Ms. Meenakshi Sahu, was solemnized with applicant Jaikant Sahu on 03.12.2024 as per Hindu rites and customs at her native place, and thereafter she started residing in her matrimonial home at Village Gharghoda, District Raigarh (Chhattisgarh). At the time of marriage, her family allegedly gave Rs.3,00,000/- in cash, 40 tolas of silver and 5 tolas of gold as dowry; however, the husband and his family members were not satisfied and subsequently demanded an additional Rs.5,00,000/- in cash and a car. On account of non-fulfilment of the said demand, the complainant was allegedly subjected to mental and physical cruelty, taunts and abuses, and continuous pressure was exerted upon her to meet the unlawful demand. It is specifically alleged that the acts of physical cruelty
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were primarily committed by the husband, Jaikant Sahu, whereas the allegations against the other family members are general in nature, including harassment, taunts and participation in the dowry demand. It is further alleged that on 18.09.2025, the complainant submitted a written application before Police Station Kasdol regarding the dowry demand and cruelty, and on the basis of the said application, FIR No. 0022/2026 was registered on 13.01.2026 for offences under Sections 85, 296 and 3(5) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, and the present applicants apprehend arrest in connection with the said FIR.

4. Learned counsel for the applicant submits that the present matter be being matrimonial in nature referred to Mediation and Conciliation Center of this Court as there are chances to compromise between the parties.
5. On the other hand, learned counsel for the non-applicant/State opposes the prayer for anticipatory bail.



	6. I have heard learned counsel for the parties and perused the material available on record. 7. Considering the fact and circumstances of the case and further the dispute between the parties, which show that it is a matrimonial dispute, this Court in the interest of justice seems it proper and necessary that an effort should be made for amicable settlement of the matter between the parties by way of mediation. 8. In view of the above, it is directed that the applicant shall deposit a sum of Rs. 1,00,000/- (Rs. One Lakh) with the Mediation Centre of this Court within 10 days from today, and the said amount shall be paid to the complainant/wife upon her appearance before the Mediation Centre. 9. Learned State counsel is directed to inform the complainant/wife about this order. 10. The matter is remitted to the Mediation Centre for appearance of the parties on 17th of March, 2026 with a direction that the Mediation Centre shall conclude the mediation and conciliation proceedings expeditiously.
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Vaibhav	11. Considering the facts and circumstances of the case, purely as an interim measure, it is directed that the applicant shall not be arrested in Crime No. 22/2026 registered at Police Station – Kasdol District – Baloda Bazar (C.G.) for the offence punishable under Sections 296, 3(5) and 85 of the Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 till the next date of hearing. 12. Let the matter be listed again on 23.03.2026, along with the report of Mediation Centre. Sd/- (Ramesh Sinha) Chief Justice
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