

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JHARKHAND AT RANCHI
A. B. A. No. 259 of 2026

1. Ramchandra Paswan, aged about 54 years, son of Natho Paswan, resident of village-Chakla, P.O. and Police Station-Hunterganj, District-Chatra
2. Devavrata Kumar Vatas, aged about 39 years, son of Uma Kant Pandey, resident of village 96 Near Hospital Katkamsandi, P.O. and P.S. Katkamsandi, District-Hazaribagh

..... ... Petitioners

Versus

The State of Jharkhand

..... ... Opposite Party

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY KUMAR DWIVEDI

For the Petitioners :Ms. A.K. Chaturvedy, Advocate

For the State : Mr. Bishambhar Shastri, A.P.P

02/ 20.01.2026: Heard learned counsel for the petitioners and learned counsel for the State.

2. The petitioners are apprehending their arrest in connection with Hunterganj P.S. Case No. 199 of 2025 registered under sections 317(2), 3 (5) of BNS, 2023, Section 4/21 of Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957, under Rule 54 of Jharkhand Minor Minerals Concession Rule, 2004, Rule 13 of Jharkhand Minerals (Prevention of illegal Mining Transportation and Storage) Rules, 2017 pending in the Court of learned Judicial Magistrate, Ist Class, Chatra.

3. Learned counsel for the petitioners submits that petitioners are owner-cum-driver of the different hywa vehicles and allegations are made that illegally stone chips were loaded on the said vehicles. He next submits that petitioners have got no criminal antecedent which is disclosed in para 13 of the petition. He then submits that petitioners earn their livelihood by driving the vehicle. On these grounds, he submits that the petitioners may kindly be provided privilege of anticipatory bail.

4. Learned counsel for the State opposes the prayer and submits that illegally stone chips were loaded on the said vehicles.

5. Considering that petitioners are owner-cum-driver of the different hywa vehicles, they have got no criminal antecedent which is disclosed in para 13 of the petition and it has been pointed out that the petitioners earn their livelihood by driving the vehicle, I am inclined to grant anticipatory bail to the petitioners. Accordingly, the above named, petitioners are directed to surrender before the learned court within three weeks from today and in the event of their surrender / arrest, the petitioners shall be released on bail, on furnishing bail bonds of Rs. 25,000/- (twenty five thousand) each with two sureties of the like amount each, to the satisfaction of learned Judicial Magistrate, Ist Class, Chatra, in connection with Hunterganj P.S. Case No. 199 of 2025, subject to conditions as laid down under Section 482 (2) of B.N.S.S, 2023.

Dt.20.01.2026

(Sanjay Kumar Dwivedi, J.)

satyarthi-