

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JHARKHAND AT RANCHI
A. B. A. No. 1576 of 2026

Srichand Sahu, aged about 60 years, son of late Ghuneshwar Sahu,
resident of village Barwa Toli, Ward No. 9, P.O. Kujra, P.S. and District-
Lohardaga (Jharkhand)

..... ... Petitioner

Versus

The State of Jharkhand

..... ... Opposite Party

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY KUMAR DWIVEDI

For the Petitioner :Mr. Suraj Kishore Prasad, Advocate

For the State : Mr. Prabir Kumar Chatterjee, Spl.P.P

02/ 20.04.2026: Heard learned counsel for the petitioner and learned
counsel for the State.

2. The petitioner is apprehending his arrest in connection with
Lohardaga P.S. Case No. 234 of 2025 registered under sections 317(5) of
BNS, 2023, under section 21 of Mines and Minerals (Development and
Regulation) Act, 1957, under Rule 13 of Jharkhand Minerals (Prevenion of
Illegal Mining, Transportation and Storage) Rule, 2017, pending in the Court
of learned Chief Judicial Magistrate, Lohardaga.

3. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that petitioner is
running brick-kiln on the valid licence and coal was kept there and
documents to that effect has been noted by the District Mining Officer,
Lohardaga which is part of F.I.R. He next submits that one truck unloaded
the coal near the brick-kiln and allegations are made that coal documents
was not found with respect to unloaded coal from the truck. He further
submits that petitioner has got no criminal antecedent which is disclosed in
para 9 of the petition. On these grounds, he submits that the petitioner may
kindly be provided privilege of anticipatory bail.

4. Learned counsel for the State opposes the prayer and submits
that for the unloaded coal from the truck, no document has been produced.

5. In the letter of District Mining Officer, it has come that petitioner

has produced valid document for 151.46 tonnes of coal and the petitioner has got no criminal antecedent which is disclosed in para 9 of the petition and in that view of the matter, petitioner is directed to surrender before the learned court within two weeks from today and the learned court shall release the petitioner on terms and conditions and sureties as learned court deems fit and proper.

6. This anticipatory bail application is disposed of.

Dt.20.04.2026

(Sanjay Kumar Dwivedi, J.)

satyarthi-