

**HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE FOR RAJASTHAN AT
JODHPUR**

S.B. Criminal Writ Petition No. 852/2026

Devraj Singh Shaktawat S/o Labh Singh, Aged About 25 Years,
Resident Of D-493, Shastrinagar, District Bhilwara Raj..

----Petitioner

Versus

- 1. State Of Rajasthan, Through P.p.
- 2. Bandhan Bank, Registered Address- Adventz Infinity @ 5
Florrs 12-14 Bn 5 Sector V Salt Lake City Kolkata
7000091
- 3. Branch Manager, Bandhan Bank Bhilwara Branch Dist.
Bhilwara Raj.

----Respondents

For Petitioner(s)	: Mr. Vishal Sharma
For Respondent(s)	: Mr. Shri Ram Choudhary, PP

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE FARJAND ALI

Order

25/02/2026

- 1. The instant criminal writ petition has been preferred seeking a direction for the respondents to defreeze the bank account of the petitioner.
- 2. The facts of the case are that alleging certain fraudulent transactions, the bank account of the petitioner has been freezed, details of which is provided hereinunder :-

S. No.	Bank Name	Branch	Account No.
1.	Bandhan Bank	Bhilwara Branch, District Bhilwara	20200118083338

- 3. Heard learned counsel for the parties and perused the material placed on the record.

4. No doubt, the statutes empower the investigation agency to request the Bank to freeze the account pending investigation and intimate it forthwith to the jurisdiction Court, but there cannot be freezing of account perpetually without intimating the account holders what for their account is freezed and what extent it has to be freezed because great inconvenience and hardship is caused to the day to day financial life of the persons concerned, since the very life-line of the business gets severed by such unilateral orders of account freezing passed by the Police.

5. The freezing of a citizen's bank account, in the absence of any cogent reasons and without establishing even a prima facie nexus of such account with the commission of any cognizable offence, amounts to a grave and unwarranted intrusion into the fundamental rights guaranteed under the Constitution. Such an action, taken in a mechanical and arbitrary manner, not only cripples the financial autonomy of an individual but also directly impinges upon the right to life and personal liberty enshrined under Article 21 and the freedom to carry on trade, occupation and business under Article 19(1)(g) of the Constitution of India. The power to interdict the operation of a bank account is an exceptional one, to be exercised sparingly, with circumspection and strictly in accordance with law, and only upon recording reasons demonstrating a live and proximate link between the account and the alleged criminal activity. Any freezing order passed dehors such safeguards betrays a colourable exercise of power, is manifestly arbitrary, and cannot be sustained in the eyes of law.

6. In the case at hand, though only a certain amount is disputed and the same has been kept on hold, but due to the blanket order to freeze the account, the respondent Bank has freezed the accounts in their entirety. Therefore, the petitioner herein is unable to operate his account and deal with the money lying therein. Under the guise of investigation, order freezing the entire account without quantifying the amount and period cannot be passed. Such order will be construed as violation of the fundamental rights of trade and business as well as violation of livelihood. This court is of the considered opinion that keeping only the disputed amount on hold would serve the interest of the parties.

7. Upon due consideration of the submissions advanced by learned counsel for the petitioner and perusing the material available on record, it is directed that the amount in dispute shall remain under freeze; however, the petitioner shall be permitted to operate the said bank account for all other lawful transactions. The respondent-bank shall ensure that only the debit operations to the extent of the disputed amount in the account bearing the number mentioned hereinbelow remain interdicted, while the account shall otherwise remain fully operational for all remaining purposes.

8. The following bank accounts of the petitioner shall remain unfrozen: -

S. No.	Bank Name	Branch	Account No.
1.	Bandhan Bank	Bhilwara Branch, District Bhilwara	20200118083338

9. Accordingly, the Superintendent of Police is hereby directed to forthwith communicate this order to the concerned Branch Manager and ensure that the account in question is de-freezed immediately, without any further delay or impediment.
10. In view of the above, instant writ petition is disposed of.
11. All pending applications are also disposed of.

(FARJAND ALI),J

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