

(2021) 07 GUJ CK 0047

In the Gujarat High Court

Case No : R/Criminal Misc.Application No. 11452 Of 2021

Ranmalbhai Bhojabhai Modhvadia

APPELLANT

Vs

State Of Gujarat

RESPONDENT

Date of Decision : 27-07-2021

Acts Referred:

Code Of Criminal Procedure, 1973 — Section 438

Gujarat Land Grabbing (Prohibition) Act, 2020 — Section 4(1), 4(2), 4(3), 5(c)

Citation : (2021) 07 GUJ CK 0047

Hon'ble Judges : Vipul M. Pancholi, J

Bench : Single Bench

Advocate : Harshil C Dattani, Mitesh Amin, Ronak Raval

Final Decision : Allowed

Judgement

Vipul M. Pancholi, J

1. Rule. Learned APP, Mr.Ronak Raval, waives service of notice of Rule on behalf of respondent-State.

2. By way of the present application under Section 438 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, the applicants-accused have prayed for anticipatory

bail in connection with the FIR being C.R. No.11218009210549 of 2021 registered with Kamlabaug Police Station, District Porbandar, for the offenses

punishable under Sections 4(1), 4(2), 4(3) and 5(c) of the Gujarat Land Grabbing (Prohibition) Act, 2020.

3. Learned advocate for the applicants submits that the nature of allegations are such for which custodial interrogation at this stage is not necessary.

He further submits that the applicants will keep themselves available during the course of investigation, trial also and will not flee from justice.

4. Learned advocate for the applicants on instructions states that the applicants

are ready and willing to abide by all the conditions including imposition of conditions with regard to powers of Investigating Agency to file an application before the competent Court for his remand. He further submit that

upon filing of such application by the Investigating Agency, the right of applicants accused to oppose such application on merits may be kept open.

Learned advocate, therefore, submitted that considering the above facts, the applicants may be granted anticipatory bail.

5. Learned Additional Public Prosecutor appearing on behalf of the respondent â?" State has opposed grant of anticipatory bail looking to the nature and gravity of the offence.

6. Having heard the learned advocates for the parties and perusing the material placed on record and taking into consideration the facts of the case,

nature of allegations, gravity of offences, role attributed to the accused, without discussing the evidence in detail, at this stage, I am inclined to grant

anticipatory bail to the applicants.

7. This Court has considered following aspects,

(a) learned advocate for the applicant has pointed out from the record that the FIR in question has been filed on 31.05.2021 against the present

applicants. However, surprisingly, though this application was filed within a period of 30 days of filing of the FIR i.e. on 29.06.2021, the Investigating

Agency has filed the charge-sheet against all the accused though all the accused i.e. the applicants herein are till date not arrested;

(b) learned advocate has referred the counter of the charge-sheet, which is placed on record;

(c) learned advocate has also pointed out from the record that now the Sessions Court has on the very next day of the filing of the charge-sheet i.e. on

30.06.2021 passed an order below Exh.1 in Sessions Case No.16 of 2021 that summons be issued to the present applicants â?" accused and the case

be listed for final hearing i.e. for framing the charge;

(d) I have perused the material placed on record. I have also perused the report given by the

In the facts and circumstances of the present case, since the custodial interrogation of the applicant is not required, I am inclined to consider the case of the applicants.

8. This Court has also taken into consideration the law laid down by the Honâ??ble Apex Court in the case of Siddharam Satlingappa Mhetre Vs.

State of Maharashtra and Ors., reported at [2011] 1 SCC 694, wherein the Honâ??ble Apex Court reiterated the law laid down by the Constitution

Bench in the case of Shri Gurubaksh Singh Sibbia & Ors. Vs. State of Punjab, reported at (1980) 2 SCC 565.

9. In the result, the present application is allowed. The applicants are ordered to be released on bail in the event of their arrest in connection with a

FIR being C.R. No.11218009210549 of 2021 registered with Kamlabaug Police Station, District Porbandar, on their executing a personal bond of

Rs.10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only) each with one surety of like amount on the following conditions:

(a) shall cooperate with the investigation and make themselves available for interrogation whenever required;

(b) shall remain present at concerned Police Station on 03.08.2021 between 11.00 a.m. and 2.00 p.m.;

(c) shall not directly or indirectly make any inducement, threat or promise to any person acquainted with the fact of the case so as to dissuade him

from disclosing such facts to the court or to any police officer;

(d) shall not obstruct or hamper the police investigation and not to play mischief with the evidence collected or yet to be collected by the police;

(e) shall at the time of execution of bond, furnish the address to the investigating officer and the court concerned and shall not change their residences

till the final disposal of the case till further orders;

(f) shall not leave India without the permission of the concerned trial court and if having passport shall deposit the same before the concerned trial

court within a week; and

(g) it would be open to the Investigating Officer to file an application for remand if he considers it proper and just and the learned Magistrate would

decide it on merits;

10. Despite this order, it would be open for the Investigating Agency to apply to the competent Magistrate, for police remand of the applicant. The

applicant shall remain present before the learned Magistrate on the first date of hearing of such application and on all subsequent occasions, as may be

directed by the learned Magistrate. This would be sufficient to treat the accused in the judicial custody for the purpose of entertaining application of the prosecution for police remand. This is, however, without prejudice to the right of the accused to seek stay against an order of remand, if, ultimately, granted, and the power of the learned Magistrate to consider such a request in accordance with law. It is clarified that the applicant, even if, remanded to the police custody, upon completion of such period of police remand, shall be set free immediately, subject to other conditions of this anticipatory bail order.

11. At the trial, the concerned trial court shall not be influenced by the prima facie observations made by this Court in the present order.

12. Rule is made absolute to the aforesaid extent.

Direct service is permitted.