



09-04-2024 NEWS

Anticipatory bails should not lead to avoid legal action

- It also said in a strict tone that 'granting anticipatory bail to those involved in crimes against women is tantamount to miscarriage of justice'.
- In February 2020, a woman from Jihuli village of East Champaran district of Bihar was accused of being a witch and severely assaulted and tore her clothes. Some villagers were also accused of humiliating them by making them eat human waste.
- They were prosecuted under various sections, including the Act against Bullying, for branding fellow human beings as witches.
- Subsequently, they approached the Patna High Court seeking anticipatory bail to avoid their arrest: the court refused.
- Anticipatory bail is given only on exceptional cases and it has been confirmed that anticipatory bail cannot be granted to all who ask. "Although in many cases the grant of bail is done, granting of anticipatory bail cannot be a rule," the judges have said.
- "Granting interim protection to accused in serious criminal cases may lead to miscarriage of justice and sometimes distortion of evidence: the trial may be greatly affected, and the courts should be very cautious in such cases."