

**HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH AT BILASPUR****CRA No. 846 of 2026****AJAY KUMAR NISHAD *versus* STATE OF CHHATTISGARH****Order Sheet**

01.04.2026	Heard Mr. Bhaskar Payashi, learned counsel for the appellant and Mr. Sourabh Sahu, learned Panel Lawyer, appearing for the State/respondent. The matter has been listed in default on account of the defects, namely, that the date of execution has not been completely mentioned in the Vakalatnama, and that the appeal has been filed with a delay of 25 days without filing an application for condonation of delay supported by an affidavit. Considering the fact that the filing of an appeal is a statutory right, which ought not to be defeated on

technical grounds, and in the interest of substantial justice, this Court deems it appropriate to take a liberal view in the matter of delay.

Accordingly, the delay of 25 days in filing the appeal is condoned.

Admit.

Since Mr. Shailendra Sharma, learned Panel Lawyer, has already appeared on behalf of the respondent/State, issuance of fresh notice to the respondent is dispensed with.

The State is directed to file its reply/objection to I.A. No.01, an application for suspension of sentence and grant of bail, within a period of two weeks, and shall also inform this Court about the criminal antecedents of the appellant, if any.

Learned State counsel is also directed to inform the mother of the victim (PW-2) regarding pendency of the appeal revealing that he/she can appear on the date fixed and object the prayer made in the bail

application through his/her counsel.

The Lower Court Record be summoned within a period of six weeks.

Let the paper-book be filed in accordance with the High Court Rules, 2007.

List this matter thereafter for consideration of I.A. No.01, application for suspension of sentence and grant of bail.

Sd/-
(Ravindra Kumar Agrawal)
Judge

Sd/-
(Ramesh Sinha)
Chief Justice