

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF GUJARAT AT AHMEDABAD**

**R/CRIMINAL APPEAL (AGAINST CONVICTION) NO. 1144 of 2026**

**With  
CRIMINAL MISC.APPLICATION (FOR SUSPENSION OF SENTENCE) NO.  
1 of 2026  
In R/CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. 1144 of 2026**

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**BHASKAR RAMESHCHANDRA SONI  
Versus  
CENTRAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION & ANR.**  
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Appearance:  
MR. ARSH R SHAIKH(6726) for the Appellant(s) No. 1  
MR RC KODEKAR(1395) for the Opponent(s)/Respondent(s) No. 1  
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**CORAM:HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE P. M. RAVAL**

**Date : 03/06/2026**

**ORAL ORDER**

**ORDER IN CRIMINAL APPEAL.**

Admit.

**ORDER IN CR.M.A.**

1. Rule fixed forthwith. Learned APP waives service of rule on behalf of the respondent–State.

2. Heard learned advocates for the respective parties. The applicant has preferred the captioned appeal challenging the judgment and order of conviction passed by the learned Special CBI Court No.6, City Civil and Sessions Court, Ahmedabad, whereby the applicant came to be convicted for the offences punishable under Sections 120B, 420 and 471 of

the IPC read with Sections 13(2) and 13(1)(d) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988. The maximum sentence imposed upon the applicant is three years' imprisonment and all the sentences are directed to run concurrently.

3. Having considered the averments made in the memorandum of appeal, the impugned judgment and order of conviction, and the submissions advanced by the learned advocates for the respective parties, and further considering that the sentence imposed is of a fixed and short duration and there is no likelihood of the appeal being heard in the near future, this Court is of the opinion that no useful purpose would be served by keeping the applicant in custody during the pendency of the appeal.

4. In view of the above this application is allowed. The substantive sentence imposed upon the applicant by the impugned judgment and order shall remain suspended during the pendency of the appeal and the applicant **be released** on bail by executing a personal bond of **Rs.10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand)** with one surety of the like amount to the satisfaction of the trial Court concerned, on the conditions that applicant:

- (a) shall not take undue advantage of liberty or misuse liberty;
- (b) shall not leave India without prior permission of this Court;
- (c) shall furnish the present address of his residence with documentary evidence to the Court concerned

at the time of execution of the bond;

(d) shall proceed with the Criminal Appeal as and when listed and shall not prolong the hearing of the same.

4. Needless to observe that in case of breach of any of above conditions, the interim protection of suspending the sentence of imprisonment may be liable to be withdrawn by the Court.

5. Rule is made absolute to the aforesaid extent. Direct service is permitted.

MOHD SAIF ULLAH

**(P. M. RAVAL, J)**