

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JHARKHAND AT RANCHI
Cr. Appeal (DB) No. 53 of 2026

Anand Mahto

... .. **Appellant**

Versus

The State of Jharkhand

... .. **Respondent**

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE RONGON MUKHOPADHYAY
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARUN KUMAR RAI

For the Appellant : Mr. Suraj Singh, Advocate

For the Res.-State : Ms. Amrita Kumari, A.P.P.

04/20.07.2026 I.A. No. 5749 of 2026

Heard Mr. Suraj Singh, learned counsel for the appellant and learned A.P.P. for the State.

This interlocutory application has been preferred by the appellant for grant of bail during the pendency of this appeal.

The appellant has been convicted for the offences under Sections 302, 120B, 201 I.P.C. and has been sentenced to undergo imprisonment for life along with a fine of Rs. 20,000/- for the offences under Sections 302/120B I.P.C.

It has been alleged that the dead body of the sister of the informant was found in a septic tank at Maa Tara Hotel, which belongs to the present appellant.

Submission has been advanced by the learned counsel for the appellant that there are no eyewitnesses to the incident and that the appellant has been convicted only on the basis of certain circumstances. It has further been submitted that the implication of the appellant stems from the fact that the appellant had taken money from the husband of the deceased and had called the deceased and her husband to the hotel for repaying the said amount, and this was the primary reason for the appellant being dragged

into the case. It has further been submitted that the appellant is in custody since 10.08.2021.

Learned A.P.P. has opposed the prayer for bail of the appellant.

It appears from the evidence of P.W.-3, who happens to be the daughter of the deceased, that she had seen her mother blindfolded, with her hands tied behind her back, and that she was kept in a room at the backside of the hotel. Admittedly, the hotel, which is the place of occurrence, belongs to the appellant. The dead body of the sister of the informant was found in the septic tank in a decomposed state. The evidence of P.W.-3 and the other surrounding circumstances as depicted by the other witnesses, coupled with the failure of the appellant to explain the circumstances with respect to the dead body of the sister of the informant being found in the septic tank of his own hotel, we are not inclined to admit the appellant on bail. His prayer for bail is hereby rejected

I.A. No. 5749 of 2026 stands rejected.

(Rongon Mukhopadhyay, J.)

(Arun Kumar Rai, J.)

20.07.2026
Umesh-Abhishek/-