

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JHARKHAND AT RANCHI
Cr. A. (DB) No. 894 of 2025

1. Manoj Bilung @ Manoj Toppo, aged about 25 years,
2. Niroj Bilung @ Niroj Toppo, aged about 23 years,
Both sons of Sukra Behra @ Illiyazar Toppo, resident of Sarkhu Toli, Dhandhera, P.O. & P.S. Pakartanr, Dist. Simdega (Jharkhand)

... .. **Appellant**

Versus

The State of Jharkhand

... .. **Respondent**

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE RONGON MUKHOPADHYAY
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PRADEEP KUMAR SRIVASTAVA

For the Appellant : Mr. Sahil, Advocate
For the State : Mr. V.S. Sahay, APP

Order No. 05/ Dated: 15th September, 2025

I.A. No. 9315 of 2025

Heard Mr. Sahil, learned counsel for the appellants and Mr. V.S. Sahay, learned APP appearing for the State.

2. This interlocutory application has been preferred by the appellants for grant of bail to them during the pendency of this appeal.
3. The appellants have been convicted for the offences under Section 302 of the IPC and ¾ OF Prevention of Witch (Daain) Practices Act and have been sentenced to undergo imprisonment for life along with fine of Rs. 20,000/- for the offence under Section 302 IPC.
4. It has been alleged that the appellants have entered into the house of the informant, dragged her mother-in-law behind the bushes and committed her murder.
5. Submission has been advanced by learned counsel for the appellants that the most of the witnesses are related to the deceased and hence interested witnesses. It has been submitted that P.W.-7 is the only independent witness examined by the prosecution and he has been declared hostile by the prosecution.
6. Mr. V.S. Sahay, learned APP has opposed the prayer for bail of the appellants.
7. It appears that P.W.1 is the informant who is an eye witness to the occurrence and who has categorically stated about seeing the appellants

dragging her mother-in-law who was subsequently found dead. The Post-Mortem Report supports the factum of murder as stated by P.W.-1.

8. On consideration of the evidence of P.W.-1 and the other facets of the case, we are not inclined to admit the appellants on bail and the prayer for bail is hereby rejected, at this stage.

9. The aforesaid I.A. stands rejected and disposed of.

(Rongon Mukhopadhyay, J.)

(Pradeep Kumar Srivastava, J.)

15.09.2025
Basant/Arpit