



HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT ALLAHABAD

CRIMINAL APPEAL No. - 357 of 2020

Ashok
.....Appellant(s)

Versus

State of U.P.
.....Respondent(s)

Counsel for Appellant(s) : Abhinav Gaur, Ajay Kumar Singh,
Ramanuj Tiwari, Sandal Khanna, Shashi
Kumar Tiwari, Sheshadri Trivedi, Vinod
Singh
Counsel for Respondent(s) : Chandra Prakash Pandey, G.A.

And

CRIMINAL APPEAL No. - 7971 of 2019

Iqbal Bahadur
.....Appellant(s)

Versus

State of U.P.
.....Respondent(s)

Counsel for Appellant(s) : Amber Khanna, Raj Kumar Khanna,
Shashi Kumar Tiwari, Vinod Singh
Counsel for Respondent(s) : Chandra Prakash Pandey, G.A.

And

CRIMINAL APPEAL No. - 7972 of 2019

Sanjay Singh @ Sanjeev Singh
.....Appellant(s)

Versus

State of U.P.
.....Respondent(s)

Counsel for Appellant(s) : Amber Khanna, Raj Kumar Khanna,
Shashi Kumar Tiwari, Vinod Singh
Counsel for Respondent(s) : Chandra Prakash Pandey, G.A.

And

CRIMINAL APPEAL No. - 7975 of 2019

Smt. Kusumlata
.....Appellant(s)

Versus

State of U.P.
.....Respondent(s)

Counsel for Appellant(s) : Amber Khanna, Raj Kumar Khanna,
Shashi Kumar Tiwari

Counsel for Respondent(s) : Chandra Prakash Pandey, G.A.
And

CRIMINAL APPEAL No. - 7976 of 2019

Gajendra Singh
.....Appellant(s)

Versus

State of U.P.
.....Respondent(s)

Counsel for Appellant(s) : Amber Khanna, Raj Kumar Khanna,
Vinod Singh

Counsel for Respondent(s) : Chandra Prakash Pandey, G.A.
And

CRIMINAL APPEAL No. - 355 of 2020

Gopu @ Brajbhushan Singh
.....Appellant(s)

Versus

State of U.P.
.....Respondent(s)

Counsel for Appellant(s) : Ajay Kumar Singh, Ravi Shanker
Pathak, Sandal Khanna

Counsel for Respondent(s) : Chandra Prakash Pandey, G.A.
And

CRIMINAL APPEAL No. - 369 of 2020

Rajnu @ Rajendra Singh
.....Appellant(s)

Versus

State of U.P.
.....Respondent(s)

Counsel for Appellant(s) : Ajay Kumar Singh, Sandal Khanna
Counsel for Respondent(s) : Chandra Prakash Pandey, G.A.
Court No. - 43

HON'BLE SALIL KUMAR RAI, J.
HON'BLE VINAI KUMAR DWIVEDI, J.

1. The present Criminal Appeal No.357 of 2020 is connected along with Criminal Appeal Nos.7971 of 2019, 7972 of 2019, 7975 of 2019, 7976 of 2019, 355 of 2020, 369 of 2020.
2. The appeals have been expedited for hearing by the Supreme Court. However, only Mr. Sheshadri Trivedi, the counsel for the appellant in Criminal Appeal No.357 of 2020 is present. Mr. Trivedi has been engaged only in Criminal Appeal No.357 of 2020 and does not represent the other accused who have filed different criminal appeals. The counsel representing the other co-accused in different appeals are not present. Except the appellant in Criminal Appeal No.7975 of 2019 other accused have not been released on bail and are in jail. The appellant Smt. Kusum Lata in Criminal Appeal No.7975 of 2019 has been released on bail by order dated 11.08.2025 passed by the Supreme Court. It would not be possible for us to hear the appeals without the counsel for the accused in other appeals being given an opportunity to represent the case of the other accused.
3. In view of the aforesaid, let non-bailable warrants be issued to the appellant in Criminal Appeal No.7975 of 2019 through the Chief Judicial Magistrate, Kannauj fixing 16.12.2025.
4. The appellants in Criminal Appeal Nos.7971 of 2019, 7972 of 2019, 7976 of 2019, 355 of 2020 and 369 of 2020 be issued notice through the concerned Jail Superintendent, who shall inform the appellants that despite the cause list having been revised, no one appeared on behalf of the appellants.
5. In case, the appellants wish to engage another counsel, steps be taken by the appellants for the said purpose and in case the appellants require legal aid, the Jail Superintendent shall take necessary steps to inform the District Legal Services Authority.
6. All formalities shall be completed before the next date fixed in the case.
7. It is clarified that in case, no counsel is engaged by the next date fixed in

the case, Amicus Curiae shall be appointed for the appellants.

8. List again on 16.12.2025.

November 19, 2025

CS/-

(Vinai Kumar Dwivedi,J.) (Salil Kumar Rai,J.)