



IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA  
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CRIMINAL APPEAL NO(S). \_\_\_\_\_ OF 2026  
(@ SLP(CRL.) NO(S). 1203/2026)

PUKHRAJ SINGH RAJPUT

Appellant(s)

VERSUS

STATE OF CHHATTISGARH

Respondent(s)

O R D E R

Leave granted.

This appeal challenges the judgment and order dated 12.11.2025 passed by the High Court of Chhattisgarh at Bilaspur in MCRC No.9063/2025.

The appellant herein has been booked for the crime registered pursuant to FIR No.104/2021 dated 22.11.2021 lodged with Police Station Singhora, District Mahasamund with respect to offences punishable under Section 20(B)(ii)(C) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 (for short "NDPS").

An application seeking regular bail having been rejected by the High Court *vide* impugned order dated 12.11.2025, the appellant has preferred the instant appeal.

This Court *vide* its order dated 27.01.2026, issued notice in the instant matter.

Heard learned senior counsel for the appellant in support of the appeal and learned counsel for the respondent-State and perused the material on record.

Learned senior counsel appearing for the appellant submitted that the appellant has been in jail since 01.08.2025; that although the charges have been framed, the recording of evidence of the witnesses has not commenced i.e. the trial has not commenced. There was no recovery made insofar as the appellant is concerned and merely because the co-accused mentioned the name of the appellant he has also been arrested. The co-accused is in any case in custody. In the circumstances, this Court may consider granting the relief of bail to the appellant herein by setting aside the impugned order.

Per contra, learned counsel for the respondent-State with response to his counter affidavit contended that the appellant herein has been named by the co-accused, the recovery has been made from the vehicle (Bolero) of the co-accused, that if any relief is

granted to the appellant herein, the trial itself may be frustrated as the appellant resides in the State of Madhya Pradesh and the trial is now in State of Chhattisgarh. Therefore, there is no merit in this appeal and the same may be dismissed.

Considering the facts on record, in our view, the case for bail is made out.

We, therefore, allow this appeal and direct as under:

“The appellant shall be produced before the concerned Trial Court as early as possible and the Trial Court shall release him on bail, subject to such conditions as it may deem appropriate to impose to ensure his presence in the proceedings arising out of FIR No. 104/2021 mentioned above.”

It is directed that the appellant shall extend complete cooperation in the trial of the instant case.

The appellant shall not misuse his liberty in any manner and shall not in any way influence the witnesses or tamper with the evidence on record.

Any infraction of the conditions may entail cancellation of bail granted to the appellant.

With these observations, the Criminal Appeal is allowed.

.....J.  
( B.V. NAGARATHNA )

.....J.  
( UJJAL BHUYAN )

NEW DELHI;  
FEBRUARY 20, 2026

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A  
R E C O R D O F P R O C E E D I N G S

Petition(s) for Special Leave to Appeal (Crl.) No(s). 1203/2026  
[Arising out of impugned final judgment and orders dated 12-11-2025 passed by the Hon'ble High Court of Chhattisgarh at Bilaspur in Miscellaneous Criminal Case No.9063/2025]

PUKHRAJ SINGH RAJPUT

Appellant(s)

VERSUS

STATE OF CHHATTISGARH

Respondent(s)

(FOR ADMISSION

IA No. 20649/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.)

Date : 20-02-2026 This matter was called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE B.V. NAGARATHNA

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE UJJAL BHUYAN

For Appellant(s) : Mr. Shailesh Madiyal, Sr. Adv.  
Mr. Nikhil Jain, AOR  
Ms. Archana, Adv.

For Respondent(s) Mr. Vinayak Sharma, Adv.  
Mr. Ravinder Kumar Yadav, AOR

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following  
O R D E R

1. Leave granted.
2. The Criminal Appeal is allowed in terms of the signed order.
3. Pending application(s), if any, shall stand disposed of.

(RADHA SHARMA)  
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(Signed order is placed on the file)

(MANOJ KUMAR)  
COURT MASTER (NSH)