



IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CRIMINAL APPEAL NO(S). _____/2026
(@SLP(CRL.)No(s). 746/2026)

RITIK MAURYA

APPELLANT(S)

VERSUS

THE STATE OF M.P.

RESPONDENT(S)

O R D E R

Leave granted.

This appeal challenges the order dated 29.12.2025 passed by the High Court of Madhya Pradesh at Gwalior in Misc. Criminal Case No.57507 of 2025.

This criminal appeal arises out of crime registered pursuant to FIR No.305/2025 dated 28.11.2025 registered at Police Station Badoni, District Datia under Sections 64(2)(m), 77, 331(4) and 351(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (for short "BNS"). Anticipating arrest in connection with this crime, the appellant preferred MCRC No.57507 of 2025 for anticipatory bail before the High Court of Madhya Pradesh at Gwalior.

The application having been rejected by the High Court vide impugned order dated 29.12.2025, the appellant has preferred the instant appeal.

By order dated 16.01.2026, this Court issued notice in the instant matter and also directed that no coercive steps shall be taken as against the appellant provided he cooperates in the investigation.

We have heard learned counsel in support of the appellant and learned counsel for the respondent-State.

Learned counsel for the appellant submitted that the allegations as against the appellant are not true at all; in fact there was a consensual relationship between the appellant and the so-called victim. However, criminal complaints have been filed against the appellant herein. This Court, by order dated 16.01.2026, had granted interim protection subject to the appellant cooperating with the investigation. That the appellant has cooperated with the investigation and the chargesheet is yet to be filed. In the circumstances, interim order may be made absolute and this appeal may be allowed by setting aside the impugned order.

Per contra, learned counsel for the respondent-State with reference to his counter affidavit contended that the allegations against the appellant are serious in nature and that the High Court was justified in declining to grant anticipatory bail to the appellant herein although the appellant may be cooperating with the investigation as such however there is no merit in this appeal and hence, the same may be dismissed.

Considering the circumstances on record, in our view, the appellant is entitled to the relief of anticipatory bail claimed.

We, therefore, allow this appeal and set aside the order passed by the High Court of Madhya Pradesh at Gwalior in MCRC No.57507 of 2025 dated 29.12.2025. We direct that in the event of arrest of the appellant, the Arresting Officer shall release the appellant on bail, subject to furnishing cash security in the sum of Rs.25,000/- (Rupees Twenty-Five Thousand only) with two like sureties.

It is directed that the appellant shall extend complete cooperation in the ensuing investigation.

The appellant shall not misuse his liberty and shall not in any way influence the witnesses or tamper with the material on record. Further, the appellant shall not make any attempt to contact the victim.

With the aforesaid directions, the Criminal Appeal is allowed.

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

.....J.
(UJJAL BHUYAN)

NEW DELHI;
MARCH 16, 2026

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Petition(s) for Special Leave to Appeal (Crl.) No(s). 746/2026
[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 29-12-2025
in MCRC No. 57507/2025 passed by the High Court of Madhya Pradesh
at Gwalior]

RITIK MAURYA

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

THE STATE OF M.P.

Respondent(s)

(IA No. 11591/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE IMPUGNED
JUDGMENT

IA No. 11593/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.)

Date : 16-03-2026 This matter was called on for hearing today.

CORAM : HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE B.V. NAGARATHNA
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE UJJAL BHUYAN

For Petitioner(s) Mr. Alok Singh, Adv.
Mr. Ankit Borker, Adv.
Mr. Sandeep Kumar Malik, Adv.
Mr. Sameer Malik, Adv.
Mr. Vinay Namdeo Bambole, Adv.
Ms. Shivangi Singh, Adv.
Mr. Raj Shekhar Sharma, Adv.
Ms. Alpana Sharma, AOR

For Respondent(s) Mr. Surjeet Singh Ga, Adv.
Mr. Yashraj Singh Bundela, AOR
Mrs. Pratima Singh, Adv.
Mr. Arpit Garg, Adv.
Ms. Sakshi, Adv.

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

(DIVYA BABBAR)
COURT MASTER (NSH)

(Signed order is placed on the file)