

the contraband seized from them. Based on the statement of one of the co-accused (A-2), the appellant was nominated as an accused.

4. Investigation having been completed *qua* the co-accused, they are facing trial. However, investigation against the appellant is in progress.

5. It is contended by learned counsel for the respondent that the appellant has joined investigation in terms of the earlier order of this Court but has not cooperated by providing “forward and backward links”. However, it is admitted that the appellant does not figure as an accused in any other FIR.

6. We have heard learned counsel appearing for the parties.

7. An accused has a right against self-incrimination and, thus, cannot be compelled by the investigating officer to confess having committed the crime.

8. Having regard to the fact that the appellant has been arraigned as an accused in the circumstances

noted above, he has no antecedents and that he has joined investigation, but without expressing any opinion as to the worth of the prosecution allegations, we are of the considered view that his detention for custodial interrogation is not necessary and that he may be admitted to an order for grant of bail in anticipation of arrest.

9. Accordingly, we set aside the impugned judgment and order.

10. It is directed that in the event of the appellant being arrested, he shall be released on bail on terms and conditions to be imposed by the trial court.

11. Since the investigation is yet to conclude, we direct that if the investigating officer calls upon the appellant to join the investigation, he shall do so by attending the police station failing which liberty is granted to bring any such omission to the notice of the trial court and seek cancellation of bail.

12. Needless to observe, the appellant shall not,

directly or indirectly, by making inducement, threat or promise, dissuade any person acquainted with the facts of the case from disclosing such facts to any police officer or to the court.

13. We repeat, if the appellant breaches any of the terms and conditions for grant of bail, the trial court shall be free to cancel the same; also that, the observations made in this order and grant of bail to the appellant in anticipation of arrest, will not be treated as findings on the merits of the case.

14. The appeal is, accordingly, allowed on the aforesaid terms.

15. Pending application(s), if any, stand disposed of.

.....J.
(DIPANKAR DATTA)

.....J.
(SATISH CHANDRA SHARMA)

**New Delhi;
April 06, 2026.**

ITEM NO.2

COURT NO.8

SECTION II-B

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).1115/2026

[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order
dated 03-11-2025 in CRM-M No.61023/2025 passed by
the High Court of Punjab & Haryana at Chandigarh]

CHAMKAUR SINGH

Petitioner

VERSUS

STATE OF PUNJAB

Respondent

I.A. No.18659/2026-EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE
IMPUGNED JUDGMENT

I.A. No.18660/2026-EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.

I.A. No.18657/2026-PERMISSION TO FILE ADDITIONAL
DOCUMENTS/FACTS/ANNEXURES

Date : 06-04-2026 This matter was called on for
hearing today.

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE DIPANKAR DATTA
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SATISH CHANDRA SHARMA

For Petitioner(s) :Mr. Ronak Karanpuria, AOR
Mr. Yogesh Kumar Mahur, Adv.
Mr. Harkesh Prashar, Adv.
Mr. Ashok Kumar, Adv.
Mr. Anshul Gupta, Adv.
Mr. Vivek Swami, Adv.

For Respondent(s) :Mr. Karan Sharma, AOR

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

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

**(RASHMI DHYANI PANT) (SUDHIR KUMAR SHARMA)
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS COURT MASTER (NSH)
(signed order is placed on the file)**