

ITEM NO.8

COURT NO.7

SECTION II-C

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 SSPECIAL LEAVE PETITION (CRIMINAL) Diary No.3507/2026

[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 30-06-2025 in BA No. 291/2024 passed by the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh at Jammu]

ANOOP SINGH

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

U.T. OF J AND K

Respondent(s)

(IA No. 20393/2026 - CONDONATION OF DELAY IN FILING SLP, IA No. 20399/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE IMPUGNED JUDGMENT AND IA No. 20398/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.)

Date : 22-01-2026 This matter was called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE J.B. PARDIWALA  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE K.V. VISWANATHAN

For Petitioner(s) :

Mr. Ranjeet Kumar, Adv.  
Mr. Simanta Kumar, Adv.  
Mr. Anant Kumar, Adv.  
Dr. Pratap Singh Nerwal, AOR

For Respondent(s) :

Ms. Deepika Gupta, Adv.

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

1. Delay condoned.
2. Exemption Applications are allowed.
3. The petitioner has been denied regular bail by the High Court in connection with the First Information Report No.0192/2018 registered on 18-10-2018 with Bari Brahmana Police Station for the offence punishable under Section 302 of the Ranbir Penal Code (now IPC) at District Samba, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.
4. The entire case of the prosecution hinges on circumstantial evidence. We are disturbed to take note of the fact that the petitioner is in custody as an under-trial prisoner since 2018.

Till this date, the prosecution has been able to examine only four witnesses out of 19 witnesses it proposes to examine. The State owes an explanation as regards the delay in conduct of the trial.

5. Issue notice, returnable on 29-1-2026 on top of the Board.

6. Registry shall call for the explanation from the concerned Trial Court as regards the status of the trial and why the trial is pending past 8 years.

7. Ms. Deepika Gupta, the learned counsel waives service of notice for and on behalf of the Union Territory of J&K.

(VISHAL ANAND)  
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(POOJA SHARMA)  
COURT MASTER (NSH)