

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. /2026
[@ SPECIAL LEAVE PETITION (CRL.) NO.2800/2026]

B.J. SREEDHAR

APPELLANT(S)

VERSUS

C.B.I COCHIN

RESPONDENT(S)

O R D E R

1. Leave granted.

2. Heard learned counsel for the parties.

3. This appeal impugns judgment and order of the High Court of Kerala at Ernakulam dated 12.11.2025 in CRL A.No.1742/2006, whereby the High Court while upholding the conviction of the appellant under Sections 7 and 13 (1)(d) read with Section 13(2) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 ('PC Act, 1988') has, *inter alia*, reduced the sentence awarded by the Trial Court from three years to two years under Section 13 (1)(d) read with Section 13 (2) of PC Act, 1988 and to one year R.I. for offence punishable under Section 7 of the PC Act, 1988.

4. Upon consideration of the submissions and perusal of the evidence available on record, we do not find any error insofar as the conviction of the appellant for offences punishable under Section 7 and Section 13 (1)(d) r/w 13(2) of the PC Act, 1988 is concerned. However, having regard to

the fact that offence relates to the year 2004 and by now 22 years have passed in litigation, considering that the bribe amount was Rs.2000/- only, we are of the view that the sentence could be reduced to the minimum permissible.

5. The offence is stated to have been committed prior to the amendment brought by Act No.1 of 2014. Under the provisions as existed prior to the amendment, the minimum sentence for the aforesaid offences was one year R.I. In such circumstances, we deem it appropriate to partly allow the appeal and reduce the sentence awarded to the appellant under Section 13 (1)(d) read with Section 13(2) of the PC Act, 1988 to one year from two years. The rest of the sentence as well as fine including default sentence awarded by the High Court as also that sentences would run concurrently is maintained. The appellant shall serve out the remaining sentence as directed above.

6. The appeal is partly allowed to the extent indicated above.

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

.....J.
[MANOJ MISRA]

.....J.
[MANMOHAN]

NEW DELHI;
MAY 04, 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 FOR SPECIAL LEAVE TO APPEAL (CRL.) NO.2800/2026

[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 12-11-2025 in CRLA No. 1742/2006 passed by the High Court of Kerala at Ernakulam]

B.J. SREEDHAR

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

C.B.I COCHIN

Respondent(s)

IA No. 56609/2026-EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T., IA
No.56608/2026-PERMISSION TO FILE ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS/
FACTS/ANNEXURES

Date:04-05-2026 This matter was called on for hearing today.

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MANOJ MISRA
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MANMOHAN

For Petitioner(s) :Mr. Adolf Mathew, Adv.
Ms. Meenu George, Adv.
Mr. Shishir Pinaki, AOR

For Respondent(s) : Mr. Kanakamedla Ravindra Kumar, A.S.G.
Mr. Siddhant Gupta, Adv.
Mr. Aditya Kumar, Adv.
Mr. Mukesh Kumar Maroria, AOR
Mr. Devraj Bhattacharjee, Adv.
Ms. Rajeshwari Shankar, Adv.
Mr. Yashraj Singh Bundela, Adv.

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

1. Leave granted.
2. The appeal is partly allowed to the extent indicated in the signed order which is placed on the file.
3. Pending application(s), if any, shall stand disposed of.

(KAVITA PAHUJA)
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(SAPNA BANSAL)
COURT MASTER (NSH)