



ITEM NO.1

COURT NO.7

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 for Special Leave to Appeal (CrI.)
No.4397/2026

[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 16-10-2025 in CRM (NDPS) No. 1114/2025 passed by the High Court at Calcutta]

ICHHANABI MONDAL

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

THE STATE OF WEST BENGAL THE STATE OF WEST
BENGAL MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY

Respondent(s)

IA No. 51023/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE
IMPUGNED JUDGMENT

Date : 15-05-2026 This matter was called on for
hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE J.B. PARDIWALA

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VIJAY BISHNOI

**For Petitioner(s) : Mr. Sukesh Ghosh, Adv.
Mr. Toslim Ali, Adv.
Mr. Ashis Kumar Chowdhury, Adv.
Mr. Rajesh Kumar Singh, Adv.
Mr. Prathvi Raj Chauhan, AOR**

**For Respondent(s) : Mr. Kunal Mimani, AOR
Ms. Shraddha C., Adv.**

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

1. The petitioner has been denied regular bail by the High Court in connection with the Belda Police Station Case No.84 of 2024 dated 11.4.2024 registered for the offence punishable under Sections 20(b) (ii) (c), 25 and 29 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985, respectively (for short, "the NDPS Act").

2. It appears from the materials on record that the

petitioner is the registered owner of the two trucks carrying contraband in the form of ganja.

3. The Trucks were intercepted as the officials had some information that contraband had been stored clandestinely in the said truck.

4. The driver and the two cleaners were arrested in connection with the seizure of the contraband in the form of 501 kgs of Ganja.

5. Upon completion of the investigation, chargesheet came to be filed, and the filing of chargesheet culminated in NDPS Case No. 8 of 2024 which is pending as on date in the Court of Special Judge, Paschim Midnapore.

6. We are informed that charge came to be framed by the Trial Court on 4.12.2025. However, not a single witness has been examined so far.

7. At the time of issuing notice we had put few

questions to the learned counsel appearing for the State more particularly, what material is there on record to indicate the direct involvement of the petitioner in the alleged seizure of the contraband.

8. We take notice of the fact and more particularly as very fairly pointed out by the learned counsel appearing for the State that even in the confessional statements of the driver and the two cleaners, the name of the present petitioner does not figure.

9. Prima facie, it appears that the petitioner came to be arrested because he happens to be the registered owner of the two vehicles.

10. In the overall view of the matter, we are convinced that the petitioner deserves to be enlarged on bail.

11. We order that the petitioner be released on bail forthwith, if not required in any other case, subject

to the terms and conditions that the Trial Court may deem fit to impose.

12. The trial shall now proceed further expeditiously.

13. With the aforesaid, the Special Leave Petition stands disposed of.

14. Pending application(s), if any, stands disposed of.

(CHANDRESH)
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(POOJA SHARMA)
COURT MASTER (NSH)