

ITEM NO.25

COURT NO.6

SECTION II-A

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

SPECIAL LEAVE PETITION (CRIMINAL) Diary No.7665/2026

[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 09-09-2025 in WPCR No.332/2025 passed by the High Court of Jharkhand at Ranchi]

GOMATI DEVI

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

THE STATE OF JHARKHAND & ORS.

Respondent(s)

(IA No. 47937/2026 - CONDONATION OF DELAY IN FILING IA No. 47938/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.)

Date : 20-02-2026 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. Pankaj Kumar, Adv.
Mr. Sumit Kumar, Adv.
Mr. Rachik Harikant, Adv.
Mr. Awanish Sinha, AOR

For Respondent(s) :

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

1. Delay condoned.
2. In this special leave petition, the petitioner (mother of an unnatural death victim) has challenged the interim order dated 09.09.2025 passed by a learned Judge of the High Court of Jharkhand. By the said order, an earlier order dated 10.06.2025 staying investigation into the unnatural death of the petitioner's son was vacated; however, the accused/private respondents were granted protection from arrest. Such order of stay of arrest has been

continued by the learned Judge by orders dated 18.09.2025, 08.10.2025, 26.11.2025 and 22.12.2025.

3. In the meanwhile, however, the petitioner had the occasion to approach this Court in Special Leave Petition (Criminal) Diary No. 40257 of 2025 while laying a challenge to the initial order dated 10.06.2025 passed on the writ petition (seeking quashing of the FIR) by which not only was the investigation into the FIR stayed but the accused/private respondents were also protected from arrest. While disposing of the said special leave petition on 18.08.2025, a Coordinate Bench of this Court had granted liberty to the petitioner to seek impleadment in the writ petition. Also, the High Court was requested to decide the writ petition after exchange of affidavits preferably within 30.09.2025.

4. We have noticed from the orders forming part of this petition that hearing of the writ petition before the High Court has not progressed much. It is also noticed that the learned Judge, who had passed the orders dated 09.09.2025, 18.09.2025, 08.10.2025, 26.11.2025 and 22.12.2025, has since demitted office on 21.01.2026.

5. It is claimed by the petitioner that due to pendency of the writ petition of the accused/private respondents, even the final report under Section 193 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 is yet to be filed.

6. In such view of the matter, without expressing any opinion on merits, we are of the considered view that interest of justice would be sufficiently served if the roster Bench of the High Court is now requested to decide the writ petition at an early date. We, therefore, dispose of this special leave

petition with a request to the roster Bench to decide the writ petition, subject to its convenience, as early as possible but by 31.05.2026 without fail.

7. A copy of this order shall be placed before the Chief Justice of the High Court for record and information.

8. Pending applications, if any, shall stand disposed of.

(GULSHAN KUMAR ARORA)
DEPUTY REGISTRAR

(SUDHIR KUMAR)
COURT MASTER