



IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. /2026
[ARISING OUT OF SLP (CRL.) NO.2321/2026]

S. RAVEENDRAN

APPELLANT(S)

VERSUS

STATE OF TAMIL NADU

RESPONDENT(S)

O R D E R

1. Leave granted.
2. Heard learned counsel for the parties.
3. This appeal arises from an order dated 22.01.2026 of the Madras High Court, Madurai Bench, in CRLOP(MD) No.22467/2025, whereby the regular bail prayer of the appellant in connection with Crime No.658 of 2025, Police Station-Kulithalai, District- Karur, has been rejected.
4. The submission of the learned counsel for the appellant is that allegations against the appellant are in respect of non-performance of

agreement for sale of an immovable property despite receiving Rs.29 lakhs as advance consideration. It is also alleged that the appellant had no right over the property in respect of which agreement was entered into. According to the appellant, firstly, the allegations make out a civil cause of action and, secondly, the offences are Magistrate triable and, therefore, there is no justification to reject the prayer for bail. It has also been pointed out that the appellant was granted interim bail by the High Court vide order dated 10.12.2025, while referring the matter for mediation. However, the mediation could not succeed. The bail prayer has been rejected only on that ground. It is submitted that even if mediation could not succeed, the bail prayer should not have been rejected considering the nature of offence, if any.

5. The learned counsel for the respondent has submitted that the matter is still under investigation and, therefore, it is not a fit case

where the appellant should be released on bail.

6. Having regard to the submissions noted above, the nature of the alleged offence, limited possibility of the appellant tampering with the evidence, we are of the view that the appellant is entitled to be released on bail. The appeal is, accordingly allowed. The impugned order of the High Court is set aside.

7. However, as the appellant was on interim bail at the time when the impugned order was passed and by interim order of this Court, the appellant was not required to surrender pursuant to the impugned order, we deem it appropriate to direct that the appellant shall not be required to surrender subject to furnishing fresh bail bonds to the satisfaction of the Trial Court concerned, within a period of two weeks from today.

8. For a period of two weeks from today, no coercive steps shall be taken against the appellant in connection with the aforesaid FIR. Thereafter, on furnishing of bail bonds in terms

directed above, the appellant shall be released on bail pending trial. It is clarified that one of the conditions of bail shall be that the appellant shall co-operate in the investigation and shall make himself available for interrogation, as and when required by the Investigating Officer.

9. The appeal stands disposed of in the aforesaid terms.

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

.....J
[MANOJ MISRA]

.....J
[N.V. ANJARIA]

New Delhi
April 10, 2026

ITEM NO.7

COURT NO.14

SECTION II-C

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Petition for Special Leave to Appeal (Crl.) No. 2321/2026

[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 22-01-2026 in CRLOP(MD) No. 22467/2025 passed by the High Court of Judicature at Madras at Madurai]

S. RAVEENDRAN

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

STATE OF TAMIL NADU

Respondent(s)

IA No. 41487/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE IMPUGNED JUDGMENT, IA No. 41489/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.

Date : 10-04-2026 This matter was called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MANOJ MISRA
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE N.V. ANJARIA

For Petitioner(s) :Mr. A Velan, AOR
Ms. Navpreet Kaur, Adv.
Mr. Prince Singh, Adv.
Mr. Nilay Rai, Adv.
Ms. Kanika Sharma, Adv.
Mr. M. Rashik Hameed Mukilan, Adv.

For Respondent(s) :

Mr. Sabarish Subramanian, AOR
Ms. Arpitha Anna Mathew, Adv.
Mr. Vishnu Unnikrishnan, Adv.

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following

O R D E R

1. Leave granted.
2. The appeal stands disposed of in terms of the signed order which is placed on the file. The operative portion of the signed order is as under:

"8. For a period of two weeks from today, no coercive steps shall be taken against the appellant in connection with the aforesaid FIR. Thereafter, on furnishing of bail bonds in terms directed above, the appellant shall be released on bail pending trial. It is clarified that one of the conditions of bail shall be that the appellant shall co-operate in the investigation and shall make himself available for interrogation, as and when required by the Investigating Officer.

9. The appeal stands disposed of in the aforesaid terms."

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

(KAVITA PAHUJA)
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(SAPNA BANSAL)
COURT MASTER (NSH)