



**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION**

**CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. _____ OF 2026
[arising out of SLP (Crl.) No. 1799 OF 2026]**

PURUSHOTTAM DADHICH

APPELLANT

VERSUS

STATE OF RAJASTHAN

RESPONDENT

ORDER

1. Leave granted.
2. The High Court of Judicature for Rajasthan Bench at Jaipur, by the impugned judgment and order dated 21st January, 2026, has rejected the appellant's application for bail.
3. Appellant was arrested on 2nd June, 2025 in connection with FIR No.10 of 2024 dated 3rd March, 2024 registered at Special Police Station (SOG), Jaipur District ATS and SOG under Section(s) 419, 420, 120B of the Indian Penal Code, 1860, Section(s) 4, 5 and 6 of the Rajasthan Public Examination (Use of Unfair Means) Act, 1992 and Section 66-D of Information and Technology Act.
4. We have heard learned counsel appearing for the parties and perused the materials on record.

5. It appears that the charges are not yet framed though in excess of 100 (hundred) witnesses are proposed to be examined to drive home the charges against the appellant by the prosecution. The trial is, thus, likely to take substantial time to conclude.

6. Taking an overall view of the matter, we are of the considered opinion that the appellant need not be detained in custody any longer and that he could be admitted to an order for release on bail pending trial.

7. Accordingly, we set aside the impugned judgment and order.

8. Appellant shall be released on bail, subject to furnishing of bail bonds to the satisfaction of the trial court and subject to such other terms and conditions as may be imposed by it.

9. Needless to observe, the appellant shall not, directly or indirectly, by making inducement, threat or promise, dissuade any person acquainted with the facts of the case from disclosing such facts to the court.

10. In the event there is any breach of the terms and conditions for grant of bail, the trial court shall be at liberty to cancel the bail of the appellant.

11. It is also ordered that the appellant shall diligently attend proceedings of the trial, unless exempted. If he abstains from attending the proceedings without justifiable cause, that could also be

seen as breach of the conditions for grant of bail and the trial court will be free to pass appropriate orders.

12. We clarify that the observations made in this order and grant of bail will not be treated as findings on the merits of the case.

13. The appeal is, accordingly, allowed on the aforesaid terms.

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

WITH

CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. _____ OF 2026
[arising out of SLP (Crl.) No. 3152 OF 2026]

RAJENDRA KUMAR YADAV @ RAJU

APPELLANT

VERSUS

STATE OF RAJASTHAN

RESPONDENT

AND

CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. _____ OF 2026
[arising out of SLP (Crl.) No. 3304 OF 2026]

MANOHAR SINGH

APPELLANT

VERSUS

STATE OF RAJASTHAN

RESPONDENT

15. Leave granted.

16. The High Court of Judicature for Rajasthan Bench at Jaipur, by the impugned judgment(s) and order(s) dated 21st January, 2026 and

9th February, 2026, has rejected the appellants' applications for bail.

17. Appellants, Rajendra Kumar Yadav @ Raju and Manohar Singh, also figure as accused in FIR No. 10 of 2024 wherein Purushottam Dadhich is a co-accused.

18. The order passed by us allowing the appeal of Purushottam Dadhich in the criminal appeal arising out of SLP (Crl.) No. 1799 of 2026 shall apply mutatis mutandis insofar as these appellants, i.e., Rajendra Kumar Yadav @ Raju and Manohar Singh, are concerned.

19. The appeals of Rajendra Kumar Yadav @ Raju and Manohar Singh, accordingly, stand allowed on the same terms.

.....J.
[DIPANKAR DATTA]

.....J.
[SATISH CHANDRA SHARMA]

**New Delhi;
March 23, 2026.**

ITEM NO.10

COURT NO.8

SECTION II-D

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

Special Leave to Appeal (CrI.) No(s). 1799/2026

[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 21-01-2026 in SBCRMSBA No. 16146/2025 passed by the High Court of Judicature for Rajasthan at Jaipur]

PURUSHOTTAM DADHICH

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

STATE OF RAJASTHAN

Respondent(s)

IA No. 32005/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.
IA No. 39083/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.
IA No. 39082/2026 - PERMISSION TO FILE ADDITIONAL
DOCUMENTS/FACTS/ ANNEXURES

WITH

SLP(CrI) No. 1545/2026 (II-D)
IA No. 27411/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.

SLP(CrI) No. 3152/2026 (II-D)
IA No. 56075/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.
IA No. 65363/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.
IA No. 65362/2026 - PERMISSION TO FILE ADDITIONAL
DOCUMENTS/FACTS/ ANNEXURES

SLP(CrI) No. 3319/2026 (II-D)
IA No. 58597/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.
IA No. 66482/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.
IA No. 66481/2026 - PERMISSION TO FILE ADDITIONAL
DOCUMENTS/FACTS/
ANNEXURES

SLP(CrI) No. 3304/2026 (II-D)
IA No. 58417/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.

Date : 23-03-2026 These matters were called on for hearing today.

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE DIPANKAR DATTA
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SATISH CHANDRA SHARMA

**For Petitioner(s) :Mr. Sudhanshu S. Chawdhary, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Pankaj Singhal, Adv.
Ms. Ashima Gupta, Adv.
Mr. Chandan Kashyap, Adv.
Mr. Anushasit Arya, Adv.
Ms. Harshita Raj, Adv.
Ms. Harsita Raj, Adv.
Mr. Ayush Anand, AOR**

**For Respondent(s) :Mr. Sansriti Pathak, A.A.G.
Ms. Shagufa Khan, Adv.
Ms. Nidhi Jaswal, AOR**

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

SLP(CrI) No. 1545/2026:

1. Learned counsel appearing for the respondent-State seeks and is granted one week's time to file counter affidavit.
2. Rejoinder thereto, if any, may be filed by a week thereafter.
3. Re-list the special leave petition after three weeks.
4. Interim stay, if any, shall continue till the next date of hearing.

SLP(CrI) No. 3319/2026:

5. After arguing for some time, learned counsel appearing for the petitioner seeks permission to withdraw the special leave petition.
6. Permission granted.
7. The special leave petition is dismissed as withdrawn.

SLP(CrI) No. 1799/2026, SLP(CrI) No.3152/2026 and SLP(CrI) No. 3304/2026:

8. Leave granted.

9. The appeals are allowed in terms of the signed order placed on the file.

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

(JATINDER KAUR)
P.S. to REGISTRAR

(SUDHIR KUMAR SHARMA)
COURT MASTER (NSH)