



IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. OF 2026
(@ SLP(CRL.) NO. 3828/2026)

SHUBHAM KUMAR KURRE

Appellant(s)

VERSUS

STATE OF CHHATTISGARH

Respondent(s)

O R D E R

Leave granted.

This appeal challenges the order dated 14.01.2026 passed by the High Court of Chhattisgarh at Bilaspur in MCRCA No. 74/2026.

Apprehending arrest in connection with crime registered pursuant to F.I.R No.189 of 2025 lodged with Police Station-Hirri, District-Bilaspur in respect of the offences punishable under Sections 303(2) and 3(5) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 [in short, "BNS"], the appellant preferred an application before the High Court seeking anticipatory bail in terms of Section 482 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 [in short, "BNSS"].

Said application for anticipatory bail has been rejected by the High Court *vide* impugned order dated 14.01.2026. Hence, the instant appeal has been preferred.

This Court *vide* order dated 09.03.2026 passed the following order:

“Issue notice to the respondent, returnable on 10.04.2026.

Learned standing counsel for the respondent accepts notice for the respondent-State.

Till the next date of hearing, no coercive steps shall be taken as against the petitioner herein *vis-a-vis* FIR NO.189 of 2025 dated 08.08.2025 of PS Hirri, District: Bilaspur, subject to the petitioner cooperating with the investigation.”

We have heard learned counsel in support of the appellant and learned counsel for the respondent-State.

Learned counsel for the appellant submitted that merely because the appellant is the owner of the Scorpio vehicle which was used for the theft of diesel by the other accused, he has also been proceeded against. This Court *vide* order dated 09.03.2026 has granted the interim protection to the appellant herein. He has joined the investigation and has been cooperating with the investigation. In the circumstances, the interim order may be made absolute by setting aside the impugned order and allowing this appeal.

Per contra, learned counsel for the respondent-State with reference to his reply contended that there is no merit in this appeal. Merely because the appellant has joined the investigation is no reason to grant him the relief of anticipatory bail. In the circumstances, the appeal may be dismissed.

Considering the circumstances on record, in our view, the appellant is entitled to the relief claimed under Section 482 of the BNSS.

We, therefore, allow this appeal and set aside the order passed by the High Court dated 14.01.2026. We direct that in the event of arrest of the appellant, the Arresting Officer shall release the appellant on bail subject to furnishing cash security in the sum of Rs.25,000/- (Rupees Twenty-Five Thousand only) with two like sureties.

It is directed that the appellant shall extend complete cooperation in the ensuing investigation. The appellant shall not misuse his liberty and shall not in any way influence the witnesses or tamper with the material on record.

With the aforesaid directions, the Criminal Appeal is allowed.

.....J.
(B.V. NAGARATHNA)

.....J.
(UJJAL BHUYAN)

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(s) for Special Leave to Appeal (Crl.) No(s). 3828/2026
[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 14-01-2026
in MCRCA No. 74/2026 passed by the High Court of Chhatisgarh at
Bilaspur]

SHUBHAM KUMAR KURRE

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

STATE OF CHHATTISGARH

Respondent(s)

(FOR ADMISSION)

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

CORAM :

HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE B.V. NAGARATHNA

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE UJJAL BHUYAN

For Petitioner(s) Mr. Aman Pandey, Adv.
Mr. Harsh Parashar, AORFor Respondent(s) Mr. Vikrant Singh Bais, D.A.G.
Mr. Vinayak Sharma, Standing Counsel, Adv.
Mr. Ravinder Kumar Yadav, AOR
Mr. Yashvardhan Shah, Adv.UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following
O R D E R

1. Leave granted.
2. The Criminal Appeal is allowed in terms of the signed order.
3. Pending application(s), if any, shall stand disposed of.

(RADHA SHARMA)
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS(DIVYA BABBAR)
COURT MASTER (NSH)

(Signed order is placed on the file)