



IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CRIMINAL APPEAL NO(S). _____ OF 2026.
(Arising out of SLP(Crl.)No(s).3457/2026)

RAVI @ MIRGI **...APPELLANT(S)**

VERSUS

STATE OF HIMACHAL PRADESH **...RESPONDENT(S)**

ORDER

1. Heard.
2. Leave granted.
3. On 13.02.2024 the dead body of Dinesh Ram was found lying in a room at Mehre, Barsar and no suspicion of murder was raised by the family members. Postmortem was conducted and the body was handed over to the family members for performing the last rites. After about 17 days, an FIR came to be registered bearing No.20/2024 dated 02.03.2024 for the

offence punishable under Sections 302 read with 34 of the Indian Penal Code (for short, 'IPC') (subsequently added Sections 394 and 301 of IPC), on the basis of suspicion expressed by the complainant (brother of deceased). Even in the said FIR the appellant was not named. However, on the next day the appellant was taken into custody and has remained in custody since then.

4. The application for grant of regular bail having been rejected by the Trial Court and affirmed by the High Court, the appellant is before this Court.

5. Having heard the learned advocates appearing for the parties, we notice that the trial has commenced and the alleged two eye-witnesses have entered the witness-box as PW5 and PW6, who have neither deposed of any physical act attributable to the appellant nor deposed of any involvement of the appellant herein in disposal of the dead body as sought to be projected by the prosecution in the chargesheet.

6. We have made this observation for the limited purpose of considering the plea of bail and we make it explicitly clear that said observation shall not come in the way of Trial Court appreciating the evidence in totality while disposing of the matter on main.

7. With this observation, we allow this appeal and set aside the impugned order dated 23.01.2026 passed by the High Court of Himachal Pradesh at Shimla and direct the appellant be released on regular bail on such terms and conditions as the jurisdictional Court deems fit to impose including the condition of directing the appellant to appear before the jurisdictional Trial Court on all dates of hearing except when he is specifically exempted.

8. Pending application(s), if any, shall be consigned to records.

.....**J.**
[ARAVIND KUMAR]

.....**J.**
[PRASANNA B. VARALE]

NEW DELHI;
APRIL 24, 2026.