



IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

Criminal Appeal No(s). /2026
SLP (Crl.) No(s). 3856/2026

NARESH YADAV

Appellant(s)

VERSUS

STATE OF CHHATTISGARH

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 08.12.2025 passed by the High Court of Chhattisgarh at Bilaspur rejecting the regular bail prayer of the appellant in connection with Crime No. 260/2024, registered at P.S. Lundra, District Sarguja (C.G.).

4. The submission of the learned counsel for the appellant is that according to the prosecution case, 37.3 kg Ganja was recovered from two vehicles whereas from the vehicle driven by the appellant only 17.36 kg of Ganja was allegedly recovered, which is below the commercial quantity of 20 kg. It is submitted that the appellant has no previous criminal antecedents and has suffered incarceration since 16.11.2024 whereas the trial is no-where near conclusion. In such circumstances, the appellant has prayed for bail.

5. The learned Counsel for the State-respondent has opposed the prayer for bail but could not dispute that appellant has no previous criminal antecedents.

6. Having regard to the above, without expressing any opinion on the merits of the case, we are of the view that the appellant is entitled to be released on bail at this

stage.

7. Accordingly, the appeal is allowed. The order passed by the High Court rejecting the regular bail prayer of the appellant is set aside.

8. The appellant shall be released on bail on such terms and conditions as the trial court may deem fit to impose in the facts and circumstances of the case.

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

.....J
[MANOJ MISRA]

.....J
[VIPUL M. PANCHOLI]

New Delhi;
May 18, 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 SCriminal Appeal No(s). /2026SLP (Crl.) No(s). 3856/2026

[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 08-12-2025 in MCRC No. 10035/2025 passed by the High Court of Chhatisgarh at Bilaspur]

NARESH YADAV

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

STATE OF CHHATTISGARH

Respondent(s)

IA No. 66926/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.

Date : 18-05-2026 This matter was called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MANOJ MISRA
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VIPUL M. PANCHOLI

For Petitioner(s) :

Mr. Kaustubh Shukla, AOR
Ms. Pushpanjali Singh, Adv.
Mr. Vipul Kumar, Adv.
Ms. Gursimrat Kaur, Adv.
Mr. Manoj Kumar, Adv.

For Respondent(s) :

Mr. Abhishek Pandey, Adv.
Mr. Siddhartha Sinha, AORUPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following
O R D E R

1. Leave granted.
2. The appeal is allowed in terms of the signed order placed on the file.
3. Pending application(s), if any, shall

stand disposed of.

(CHETAN ARORA)
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(SAPNA BANSAL)
COURT MASTER (NSH)