



IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. _____ OF 2026
(@SLP(CRL.) NO.4180/2026)

SURJEET RAM APPELLANT

VERSUS

STATE OF HARYANA RESPONDENT

O R D E R

1. Heard.
2. Leave granted.
3. On the basis of co-accused statement, the appellant has been apprehended and visited with an FIR for the offence punishable under Sections 15(b) and 29 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985.
4. It is a case of the prosecution that on 18.01.2026, co-accused Mandeep Sharma from whose possession 2.480 kilograms of Poppy Husk was recovered is said to have disclosed the name of the appellant while in police custody. It is not in dispute that the appellant was not present at the spot when the contraband was seized. The earlier

criminal case registered against the appellant in FIR No.67/2022 is for the similar offence is pending adjudication before the trial court and even in the said case, the appellant was said to have been implicated from the disclosure statement of the co-accused and no recovery was affected from the appellant as it has happened in the instant case. However, the fact remains in the instant case that there were number of calls exchanged between the appellant and the co-accused as indicated in paragraph No.6 of the counter-affidavit filed by the respondent - State. The nature of the transaction between the appellant and the co-accused and other details surrounding the same are all issues which would be required to be examined after evidence is tendered by the prosecution. Hence, we are of the considered view that appellant is entitled for being released on anticipatory bail particularly in the backdrop of no contraband having been seized from the conscious possession of appellant. However, we make it clear that in the

event of any fresh case being registered against appellant for similar offences, the respondent - State would be at liberty to seek for cancellation of this bail by filing appropriate application before the jurisdictional trial court. With these observations, we allow this appeal, set aside the impugned order and direct appellant to be released on anticipatory bail on such terms and conditions as the Investigating Officer deems fit to impose including the condition of directing the appellant to appear for further investigation as and when called for and shall also appear before the trial court on all dates of hearing.

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

.....J.
(ARAVIND KUMAR)

.....J.
(PRASANNA B. VARALE)

NEW DELHI;
APRIL 27, 2026.

ITEM NO.13

COURT NO.15

SECTION II-B

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

Petition(s) for Special Leave to Appeal (Crl.)
No(s).4180/2026

[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order
dated 13-02-2026 in CRMM No.8540/2026 passed by
the High Court of Punjab & Haryana at Chandigarh]

SURJEET RAM

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

STATE OF HARYANA

Respondent(s)

FOR ADMISSION

IA No. 73199/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.

Date : 27-04-2026 This matter was called on for
hearing today.

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARAVIND KUMAR
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PRASANNA B. VARALE

For Petitioner(s) : Mr. Ram Bhadauria, Adv.
Mr. Robin Khokhar, AOR
Ms. Ritu Reniwal, Adv.
Mr. B.N. Dubey, Adv.

For Respondent(s) : Mr. Justine George, A.A.G.
Mr. Samar Vijay Singh, AOR
Mr. Aman Dev Sharma, Adv.
Mr. Sudhanshu Rai, Adv.

Mr. Akshay Amritanshu, AOR
Mr. Sarthak Srivastava, Adv.
Mr. Mayur Goyal, Adv.

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following

O R D E R

Leave granted.

Criminal Appeal is allowed in terms of the signed order placed on the file.

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

(NEHA GUPTA)
COURT MASTER (SH)

(AVGV RAMU)
COURT MASTER (NSH)