



IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CRIMINAL APPEAL NO(S). OF 2026
(@SPECIAL LEAVE PETITION (CRL.) NO(S). 7778 OF 2026)

KARAN NANDKUMAR PATIL

APPELLANT

VERSUS

THE STATE OF MAHARASHTRA

RESPONDENT

O R D E R

Leave granted.

This criminal appeal challenges the order dated 19.09.2022 passed by the High Court of Judicature at Bombay, in IA No. 1326/2022 in Criminal Appeal No. 424/2022, whereby the appellant's application for suspension of sentence was dismissed.

The appellant faced trial in connection with a crime registered pursuant to C.R. No. 221/2013 dated 05.05.2013 lodged with P.S.Mahim, Bombay in respect of the offences punishable under Section 302 r/w S.34 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 [in short "IPC"] and under Sections 4 and 25 of the

Arms Act, 1958.

The trial court in Sessions Case No.760/2013 convicted the appellant for the offences under Section 302 r/w 34 of IPC *vide* judgment dated 21.10.2020 and awarded a sentence of rigorous imprisonment for life.

The appellant, being aggrieved by the order of conviction passed by the trial court, filed Criminal Appeal No. 424/2022 before the High Court of Judicature at Bombay and the same is pending adjudication before the High Court. During the pendency of the said criminal appeal, the appellant filed an Interim Application No.1326/2022 seeking suspension of sentence. The High Court, by the impugned order dated 19.09.2022, dismissed the application filed by the appellant for suspension of sentence. Hence, the present criminal appeal.

This Court, *vide* its order dated 24.04.2026, issued notice in the instant matter.

Heard learned counsel for the appellant and learned counsel for the State and perused the

material on record.

During the course of submissions, our attention was drawn to the orders passed by this Court in SLP (Crl.) No.17023 of 2025 dated 03.12.2025 and SLP (Crl.) No.18447 of 2024 dated 27.01.2025 which were filed by the co-accused.

Learned counsel for the appellant submitted that this appellant has also assailed the very same impugned order passed by the High Court and the allegations against him are also similar and hence, similar relief may be granted to his appellant also in terms of the orders referred to above.

Learned counsel for the respondent however submitted that appropriate orders may be made in this case.

We find that the interest of justice would be served if we follow the aforesaid orders passed by this court. The relevant portion of the orders passed by this Court in SLP (Crl.) No.17023 of 2025 dated 03.12.2025 reads as under:

"The grievance of the appellant is that insofar as the co-accused Dilip Shreepad Bhalerao is concerned, he has been granted suspension of sentence and bail by virtue of order dated 27.01.2025 passed by this Court in SLP (Crl.) No. 18447 of 2024 having regard to his long incarceration of more than ten years; that a similar order may be made in the case of the appellant herein as the appellant herein is also assailing the very same impugned order dated 19.09.2022 passed in the aforesaid interim application in the aforesaid Criminal Appeal is the submission of learned counsel for the appellant. He, therefore, submitted that on the principle of parity, the appellant may be granted suspension of sentence and bail by setting aside the impugned order.

Per contra, learned counsel for the respondent - State submitted that having regard to the order dated 27.01.2025 passed by this Court, appropriate orders may be made in this appeal.

We have perused order dated 27.01.2025 passed in SLP (Crl.) No. 18447 of 2024. For ease of reference the same reads as under:

"The petitioner is an accused for the offences punishable under Section 302 read with Section 34 of the Indian Penal Code. His appeal is pending before the High Court of Judicature at Bombay. His application for suspension of sentence was rejected by the High Court vide impugned order dated 19.09.2022. He has already undergone the sentence for more than 10 years.

Considering the period of incarceration of the petitioner and the entire facts and circumstances of this case, we are of the opinion that

a case of bail is made out for the petitioner and therefore, the prayer for bail is allowed.

Accordingly, the petitioner is directed to be released on bail forthwith on the usual terms and conditions to be decided by the concerned Court.

The present Special Leave Petition shall stand disposed of in the above terms along with pending application(s), if any."

Following the aforesaid order and in the interest of the judicial consistency, we dispose of the present appeal granting suspension of sentence and bail on the usual terms and conditions to be decided by the concerned Sessions Court which had convicted the appellant herein; for that purpose he shall be produced before the concerned Sessions Court as early as possible.

We, however, make it clear that we have not made any observation on what has been stated by the High Court in the impugned order and we are passing this order purely on the principle of parity and judicial consistency by bearing in mind the fact that the appellant herein has also completed about eleven years of incarceration.

The appeal is allowed and disposed of in the aforesaid terms.

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

The aforesaid order would squarely apply to the case of the appellant herein.

The appeal is allowed and disposed of in the aforesaid terms.

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

....., J.
[B.V. NAGARATHNA]

....., J.
(UJJAL BHUYAN)

NEW DELHI
MAY 22, 2026

ITEM NO.12

COURT NO.4

SECTION II-A

**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).
7778/2026**

**[ARISING OUT OF IMPUGNED FINAL JUDGMENT AND ORDER DATED
19-09-2022 IN IA NO. 1326/2022 PASSED BY THE HIGH COURT
OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY]**

KARAN NANDKUMAR PATIL

PETITIONER(S)

VERSUS

THE STATE OF MAHARASHTRA

RESPONDENT(S)

**IA No. 118075/2026 - CONDONATION OF DELAY IN FILING
IA No. 118081/2026 - CONDONATION OF DELAY IN REFILEING /
CURING THE DEFECTS
IA No. 118074/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE
IMPUGNED JUDGMENT
IA No. 118070/2026 - PERMISSION TO FILE ADDITIONAL
DOCUMENTS/FACTS/ANNEXURES**

**Date : 22-05-2026 This matter was called on for hearing
today.**

**CORAM : HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE B.V. NAGARATHNA
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE UJJAL BHUYAN**

**For Petitioner(s) : Mr. Kaustubh Dube, Adv.
Mr. Gaurav Shukla, Adv.
Mr. Sudhanshu Singh, Adv.
Mr. Hashir Ahmad, Adv.
Mr. Umesh Dixit, Adv.
Mr. Harshad Rathod, Adv.
Mr. Anirudh Gaikwad, Adv.
Mr. M. Venkatesulu, Adv.
Mr. Sanjay Kumar Visen, AOR**

For Respondent(s) : Mr. Bharat Bagla, Adv.
Mr. Siddharth Dharmadhikari, Adv.
Mr. Aaditya Aniruddha Pande, AOR
Mr. Shrirang B. Varma, Adv.

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following

O R D E R

Leave granted.

Appeal is allowed and disposed of in terms of the signed order, which is placed on file.

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

(B. LAKSHMI MANIKYA VALLI)
COURT MASTER (SH)

(DIVYA BABBAR)
COURT MASTER (NSH)