

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA  
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION**

**CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. \_\_\_\_\_ OF 2026  
(Arising out of SLP (Crl.) No.5471 of 2026)**

**FATHER MANKUNWAR TOPPO ALAIS FATHER  
MANKUWAR TOPPO**

**APPELLANT(S)**

**VERSUS**

**THE STATE OF JHARKHAND**

**RESPONDENT(S)**

**O R D E R**

1. Leave granted.
2. The appellant challenges the judgment and order dated 06.02.2026 in ABA No.6936 of 2025, titled "*Father Mankunwar Toppo @ Father Mankuwar Toppo Vs. State of Jharkhand*", passed by the High Court of Jharkhand at Ranchi.
3. On 25.03.2026, this Court passed the following order:-

"1. The petitioner challenges the judgment and order dated 06.02.2026 in ABA No.6936/2025 titled "*Father Mankunwar Toppo @ Father Mankuwar Toppo vs. State of Jharkhand*" passed by the High Court of Jharkhand at Ranchi.

2. Issue notice, returnable on 27.04.2026.

3. Mr. Vishnu Sharma, learned Advocate-on-Record accepts notice on behalf of the State of Jharkhand. Hence, the formal service of notice on the respondent-State is waived.

4. Learned counsel for the petitioner to serve a copy of the present petition to the learned counsel for the respondent State within a period of one week.

5. Let counter affidavit be filed within two weeks. Rejoinder thereto, if any, be filed within one week thereafter.

6. In the event of arrest in connection with Latehar Mahila P.S. Case No.08 of 2025, the petitioner shall be released on bail by the Investigating/Arresting Officer on such terms and conditions as imposed and found to be just, fair and reasonable.

7. The petitioner shall make himself available before the Investigating Officer on 01.04.2026 at 10:00 a.m. and on all such dates as he may be required.

8. Needless to add, the petitioner would maintain good conduct and not attempt to influence any of the witnesses, in any manner, till the completion of the trial."

4. We have heard learned counsel for the parties and also perused the materials available on record.

5. It is not in dispute that the conditions stand fully complied with; the appellant has cooperated during the investigation; he has not threatened or intimidated any of the witnesses; or has tried to influence the investigation in any manner.

6. We have noticed the nature of crime and the manner in which it was allegedly committed.

7. We allow the present appeal by confirming the order dated 25.03.2026, passed by this Court, with a direction to the appellant to continue to cooperate during the investigation/trial and not to take any unnecessary adjournment. Also, the appellant shall report before the Investigating Officer every alternate Monday, between 10 a.m. and 11 a.m., till such time the investigation is complete in all respects.

8. If the Investigating Officer/Arresting Officer/Trial Court feels that the investigation/trial is delayed on account of the appellant's conduct, it shall be open to the Investigating Officer/Arresting Officer/Trial Court to take appropriate steps in accordance with the law, including cancellation of bail.

9. Further, if the appellant possesses a passport, the same shall be surrendered before the Competent Authority/Court till

the conclusion of the trial or directed otherwise.

10. The impugned judgment and order dated 06.02.2026 is set aside.

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

.....J.  
(SANJAY KAROL)

.....J.  
(AUGUSTINE GEORGE MASIH)

NEW DELHI;  
27<sup>th</sup> APRIL, 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). 5471/2026

[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 06-02-2026 in ABA No. 6936/2025 passed by the High Court of Jharkhand at Ranchi]

FATHER MANKUNWAR TOPPO ALAIS FATHER MANKUWAR TOPPO Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

THE STATE OF JHARKHAND

Respondent(s)

(FOR ADMISSION AND IA No. 93786/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.)

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

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY KAROL  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AUGUSTINE GEORGE MASIH

For Petitioner(s) :Mr. Sanjay Hegde, Sr. Adv.  
Mr. Ankit Tiwari, Adv.  
Mr. Ashish Kumar, Adv.  
Mr. M.A.Aruneshe, Adv.  
Mr. R. Sudhakaran, AOR

For Respondent(s) :Ms. Madhusmita Bora, AOR  
Mrs. Madhur Dadlani, Adv.  
Mr. Pawan Kishore Singh, Adv.  
Mr. Dipankar Singh, Adv.  
Ms. Pavithra V., Adv.  
Mr. Vaibhav Chechi, Adv.

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following  
O R D E R

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

(RAJNI MUKHI)

ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(Signed order is placed on the file)

(ANU BHALLA)

COURT MASTER (NSH)