



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

CRIMINAL APPEAL No. OF 2026
[arising out of SLP (Cri.) No. 5140 OF 2026]

DEEPA @ DEEPU

APPELLANT

VERSUS

STATE OF PUNJAB

RESPONDENT

ORDER

1. Leave granted.
2. By the impugned judgment and order dated 13th March, 2026, the High Court of Punjab and Haryana at Chandigarh has rejected the appellant's prayer for bail in anticipation of arrest.
3. Appellant figures as an accused in FIR No. 0131 dated 13th November, 2025 registered with Police Station-Pojewal, District-SBS Nagar, Punjab. It is alleged in the FIR that the appellant has committed offence(s) punishable under Section(s) 115(2), 127(2), 351(2), 333, 109 and 3(5) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023.
4. We have heard learned counsel appearing for the appellant and the respondent-State as well as the complainant.

5. It is not in dispute that the appellant, in terms of an earlier order, has since joined the investigation. In such view of the matter and considering the nature of allegations, we are of the considered opinion that custodial interrogation of the appellant is not necessary and that there is sufficient ground for the appellant to be admitted to an order for grant of bail in anticipation of arrest.

6. Accordingly, the impugned judgment and order stands set aside.

7. It is directed that in the event of the appellant being arrested in connection with proceedings arising out of the aforesaid FIR, she shall be released on bail by the arresting/investigating officer/trial court on terms and conditions to be fixed by the trial court.

8. It is made clear that in the event of breach of any of the terms and conditions imposed by it, the trial court shall be at liberty to cancel the bail of the appellant.

9. Needless to observe, the appellant shall not, directly or indirectly, by making inducement, threat or promise, dissuade any person acquainted with the facts of the case from disclosing such facts to any police officer or to the court.

10. Also, since the investigation is yet to conclude, we direct that should the investigating officer so require, the appellant shall attend the police station for further interrogation.

11. We clarify that the observations made in this order and grant

of bail will not be treated as findings on the merits of the case.

12. The appeal is allowed on the above terms.

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

.....J.
[DIPANKAR DATTA]

.....J.
[SATISH CHANDRA SHARMA]

New Delhi
May 18, 2026.

ITEM NO.4

COURT NO.6

SECTION II-B

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

Special Leave to Appeal (Crl.) No(s). 5140/2026

[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 13-03-2026 in CRMM No. 11393/2026 passed by the High Court of Punjab & Haryana at Chandigarh]

DEEPA @ DEEPU

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

STATE OF PUNJAB

Respondent(s)

IA No. 88193/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE
IMPUGNED JUDGMENT

IA No. 88191/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.

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

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE DIPANKAR DATTA
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SATISH CHANDRA SHARMA

For Petitioner(s) :Mr. Amandeep Singh, Adv.
Mr. Pawas Agarwal, AOR

For Respondent(s) :Mr. Siddhant Sharma, AOR
Mr. Vikram Choudhary, 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 the signed order placed on the file.

(JATINDER KAUR)
P.S. to REGISTRAR

(SUDHIR KUMAR SHARMA)
COURT MASTER (NSH)