



IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA  
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. \_\_\_\_\_ OF 2026  
(@SLP(CRL.) NO.6272 OF 2026)

SAMIMA KHATUN

APPELLANT(S)

VERSUS

STATE OF WEST BENGAL

RESPONDENT(S)

O R D E R

1. Heard.

2. Leave granted.

3. Appellant who has been charged for the offences punishable under Section 21(C) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 (NDPS Act), is seeking for being enlarged on regular bail contending interalia that from 06.12.2024 she is in custody, and being a lady with two minor children, she may be granted bail particularly in the backdrop of prosecution having not examined any of its witnesses till date though the charges were framed wayback in the year 2025.

4. Having heard the learned counsels appearing for the parties, we notice that chargesheet was filed on 08.05.2025 and charges came to be framed on 20.08.2025 and in all ten witnesses have been cited and none of them have been examined till date and no cogent reason has been assigned for non-examination of witnesses.

5. Right to speedy trial is the mandate of Article 21 of the Constitution of India. In this background, the delay in the instant case being attributable to the prosecution, the relief of bail cannot be denied to the appellant, particularly, having regard to the fact that appellant is a lady and aged about 30 years and will have to take care of her two young children. This Court also takes note of the fact that undisputedly there are no criminal antecedents of the appellant.

6. Hence, appeal is allowed. Impugned order is set aside. Appellant is ordered to be released on bail on such terms and conditions as the jurisdictional court may deem fit to impose.

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

.....J.  
(ARAVIND KUMAR)

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

New Delhi;  
April 16, 2026.

ITEM NO.17

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  
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). 6272/2026

[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 11-02-2026  
in CRM (NDPS) No. 237/2026 passed by the High Court at Calcutta]

SAMIMA KHATUN

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

THE STATE OF WEST BENGAL

Respondent(s)

IA No. 106818/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE IMPUGNED  
JUDGMENT

Date : 16-04-2026 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. Soumya Dutta, AOR  
Mr. Siddhant Upmanyu, Adv.  
Ms. Nisstha Balodia, Adv.

For Respondent(s) : Mr. Kunal Mimani, AOR  
Mr. Parag Chaturvedi, Adv.  
Mr. Mranal Prajapati, Adv.

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

1. Leave granted.
2. Appeal is allowed in terms of the Signed Order placed on the file.
3. Pending application(s), if any, shall stand disposed of.

(RASHI GUPTA)  
COURT MASTER (SH)

(AVGV RAMU)  
COURT MASTER (NSH)