



IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. _____ OF 2026
(@ SLP(CRL.) NO. 5401/2026)

PURANMAL

Appellant(s)

VERSUS

STATE OF RAJASTHAN

Respondent(s)

O R D E R

Leave granted.

This Criminal Appeal challenges the order dated 09.03.2026 passed by the High Court of Judicature for Rajasthan at Jaipur, in S.B. Criminal Misc Suspension of Sentence Application (Appeal) No.176/2026 in S.B. Criminal Appeal (SB) No.235/2026, whereby the appellant's application for suspension of sentence was dismissed.

The appellant with co-accused faced trial in connection with a crime registered pursuant to FIR No.302/2013 dated 28.03.2013 lodged with P.S. Kotputli, District: Jaipur Rural in respect of the offences punishable under Sections Sections 143, 341 and 323 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 [in short "IPC"].

The Trial Court in Session Case No.17/2025 convicted the appellant and co-accused for the offences under Sections 323/34, 325/34, 326/34, and 341 vide judgment dated 28.01.2026 and awarded a sentence of rigorous imprisonment for a period of six months, along with a fine of Rs.1,500/- for the offence under Section 323 of IPC, and a sentence of rigorous imprisonment for a period of three years along with fine of Rs.3000/-, for the offence under Section 325 of IPC. Further, a sentence of five years of rigorous imprisonment along with a fine of Rs.20000/- was awarded for the offence under Section 326 of the IPC and therefore was punished a sentence of 15 days of simple imprisonment under Section 341 of the IPC along with a fine of Rs.200/-.

The appellant and co-accused, being aggrieved by the order of conviction and sentence passed by the Trial Court, filed Criminal Appeal (SB) No. 235/2026 before the High Court and the same is pending before the High Court. During the pendency of the said criminal appeal, the appellant filed S.B. Criminal Misc. Suspension of Sentence Application No. 176/2026

before the High Court seeking suspension of sentence. The High Court, by the impugned order dated 09.03.2026, dismissed the application for suspension of sentence. Hence, the present Criminal Appeal.

This Court *vide* its order dated 02.04.2026, issued notice in the instant matter.

Heard learned counsel for the appellant and learned counsel for the State and perused the material on record.

Learned counsel for the appellant submitted that the offences for which the appellant has been convicted are under Sections 323, 325, 326 and 341 read with section 34 of the IPC and the highest sentence imposed is five years; that the appellant has already spent approximately three months in jail; the appeal before the High Court is of the year 2026 and it is unlikely that the said appeal would be heard in the near future having regard to the huge pendency before the High Court; that the appellant has a good case on merits. In the circumstances, the impugned order may be set aside and the relief of suspension of sentence and bail may be granted to the appellant herein subject to the conditions that may be imposed.

Per contra, learned counsel for the respondent-State with reference to his counter affidavit contended that the High Court was justified in declining relief to the appellant herein and there is no merit in the appeal.

Considering the facts on record, in our view, the case for suspension of sentence is made out.

We, therefore, allow this appeal and direct as under:

"The appellant shall be produced before the concerned trial Court as early as possible and the trial Court shall release him on bail, subject to such conditions as it may deem appropriate to impose to ensure his presence in the proceedings."

The appellant shall appear before the High Court as and when directed to do so.

It is directed that the appellant shall extend complete cooperation in the hearing of the appeal before the High Court.

The appellant shall not misuse his liberty in any manner.

Any infraction of the conditions may entail cancellation of the suspension of sentence and bail granted to the appellant herein.

With these observations, the Criminal Appeal is allowed.

.....J.
(B.V. NAGARATHNA)

.....J.
(UJJAL BHUYAN)

NEW DELHI;
APRIL 20, 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). 5401/2026
[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 09-03-2026
in SBCRMSOSA No. 176/2026 passed by the High Court of Judicature
for Rajasthan at Jaipur]

PURANMAL

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

STATE OF RAJASTHAN

Respondent(s)

(IA No. 92900/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE IMPUGNED
JUDGMENT

IA No. 92898/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.)

Date : 20-04-2026 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. Vinay Kumar Aherodiya, Adv.
Mr. Kuldeep Sharma, Adv.
Ms. Sonu Kumari, Adv.
Mr. Vasim Akhtar, Adv.
Mr. Sunil Kumar Mallan, Adv.
Mr. Ankit Borker, Adv.
Mr. Alok Singh, Adv.
Mr. Jugul Kishor Gupta, AOR

For Respondent(s) Mr. Saurabh Rajpal, Adv.
Mr. Vinay Kumar Singh, Adv.
Ms. Nidhi Jaswal, AOR

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

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

(RADHA SHARMA)
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(DIVYA BABBAR)
COURT MASTER (NSH)

(Signed order is placed on the file)