



**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA**

**CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION**

**CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. \_\_\_\_\_ OF 2026**  
**(arising out of SLP(Crl.) No. 6213/2026)**

**SHIRAJEES SALKIN** **APPELLANT(S)**

**VERSUS**

**STATE OF CHHATTISGARH** **RESPONDENT(S)**

**with**

**CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. \_\_\_\_\_ OF 2026**  
**(arising out of SLP(Crl.) No. 6520/2026)**

**and**

**CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. \_\_\_\_\_ OF 2026**  
**(arising out of SLP(Crl.) No. 6645/2026)**

**O R D E R**

1. Leave granted.
2. The appellants are aggrieved by the denial of regular bail by the High Court of Chhattisgarh at Bilaspur, *vide* orders dated 11.02.2026 passed in MCRC

Nos. 1422/2026 and 1411/2026 and order dated 12.02.2026 passed in MCRC No. 1393/2026, in connection with Crime/First Information Report (FIR) No. 15/2025 dated 25.07.2025 registered with Police Station - Tongpal, District - Sukma, Chhattisgarh, for the offence punishable under Section 20(b)(ii)(C) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985<sup>1</sup>.

3. The appellants have been in custody since 24.07.2025. The investigation stands completed and the trial has also commenced. Though the quantity of contraband allegedly seized from the appellants qualifies as a commercial quantity under the provisions of the NDPS Act, we may note that none of the appellants have any past criminal antecedents. We are, therefore, of the opinion that their continued incarceration is not warranted on the given facts.

1 "NDPS Act", for short

4. The impugned orders dated 11.02.2026 and 12.02.2026 are, accordingly, set aside and the appeals are allowed. The appellants shall be released on bail in connection with the aforesaid Crime/FIR, on such appropriate terms and conditions as may be fixed by the trial Court.
5. We clarify that we have not made any observations/comments on the merits of the cases and any observation made in this order is meant only for the limited purpose of grant of bail.
6. Pending application(s), if any, shall stand disposed of.

.....J.  
(SANJAY KUMAR)

.....J.  
(K. VINOD CHANDRAN)

**NEW DELHI;  
MAY 18, 2026.**

ITEM NO.5

COURT NO.9

SECTION II-C

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A  
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Petition for Special Leave to Appeal (Crl.) No.  
6213/2026

[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order  
dated 12-02-2026 in MCRC No. 1393/2026 passed by  
the High Court of Chhatisgarh at Bilaspur]

SHIRAJEES SALKIN

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

STATE OF CHHATTISGARH

Respondent(s)

WITH

SLP(Crl) No. 6520/2026 (II-C)

SLP(Crl) No. 6645/2026 (II-C)

(IA No. 113285/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.  
and IA No. 113282/2026 - PERMISSION TO FILE  
ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS/FACTS/ANNEXURES)

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

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY KUMAR  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE K. VINOD CHANDRAN

For Petitioner(s) :

Mr. Ashok Kumar Singh, Adv.  
Mr. Shantwanu Singh, AOR  
Mrs. Pragya Singh, Adv.  
Mr. Akshay Singh, Adv.  
Mr. Rahul Dubey, Adv.  
Mr. Tushar Sharma, Adv.

Mr. Varun Sharma, Adv.  
Mr. P.N. Yadav, Adv.

For Respondent(s) :

Mr. Atul Jha, A.A.G.  
Mr. Abhishek Pandey, Adv.  
Mr. Siddhartha Sinha, AOR

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

Leave granted.

The impugned orders dated 11.02.2026 and 12.02.2026 are set aside and the appeals are allowed, in terms of the signed order. The appellants shall be released on bail in connection with Crime/First Information Report No. 15/2025 dated 25.07.2025 registered with Police Station - Tongpal, District - Sukma, Chhattisgarh, for the offence punishable under Section 20(b)(ii)(C) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985, on such appropriate terms and conditions as may be fixed by the trial Court.

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

(DEEPAK GUGLANI)  
DEPUTY REGISTRAR

(CHETNA BALOONI)  
COURT MASTER (NSH)

(signed order is placed on the file)