



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

**CRIMINAL APPEAL No. _____/2026
[Arising out of SLP (Crl.) No.8393/2026]**

AUSHOTOSH PARATE

APPELLANT

VERSUS

STATE OF CHHATTISGARH

RESPONDENT

ORDER

1. Leave granted.
2. The High Court of Chhattisgarh at Bilaspur, by a judgment and order dated 22nd April, 2025, has rejected the prayer of the appellant for bail in anticipation of arrest. This appeal is directed against such judgment and order.
3. Appellant figures as an accused in FIR No.0767 of 2024 dated 24th September, 2024 registered at Police Station Khamtarai, District Raipur, Chhattisgarh under Sections 408, 420, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471 and 34 of the Indian Penal Code,

1860.

4. We have heard learned counsel appearing for the parties.

5. Learned counsel appearing for the respondent submits that the appellant has joined investigation and cooperated with the investigating officer in terms of the earlier orders of this Court.

6. It also appears that chargesheet has been filed on 25th December, 2024 but the charges are yet to be framed; presently, argument on charges is in progress. Prosecution proposes to examine 11 (eleven) witnesses to drive home the charges against the appellant. Thus, the trial is likely to take some time to conclude.

7. Also, co-accused, i.e., Deepak Sah has been enlarged on bail and the appellant is entitled to claim parity.

8. Taking an overall view of the matter, we are of the considered opinion that the appellant's detention for custodial interrogation is not necessary and that

he may be admitted to an order for grant of bail in anticipation of arrest.

9. Accordingly, we set aside the impugned judgment and order.

10. It is directed that in the event of the appellant being arrested, he shall be released on bail on terms and conditions to be imposed by the trial court.

11. Since the investigation qua the appellant is yet to conclude, we direct that if the investigating officer calls upon the appellant to join the investigation, he shall do so by attending the police station failing which liberty is granted to bring any such omission to the notice of the trial court and seek cancellation of bail.

12. 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.

13. We clarify that the observations made in this

order and grant of bail to the appellant in anticipation of arrest will not be treated as findings on the merits of the case.

14. The appeal is, accordingly, allowed on the aforesaid terms.

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

.....J.
(DIPANKAR DATTA)

.....J.
(SATISH CHANDRA SHARMA)

**New Delhi;
May 22, 2026.**

ITEM NO.3

COURT NO.7

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.8393/2026**

**[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order
dated 22-04-2025 in MCRCA No.510/2025 passed by the
High Court of Chhatisgarh at Bilaspur]**

AUSHOTOSH PARATE

Petitioner

VERSUS

STATE OF CHHATTISGARH

Respondent

I.A. No.138807/2026-EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.

I.A. No.121907/2026-EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.

**Date : 22-05-2026 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. Nitin Singh, Adv.
Mr. Neeraj Kumar Gupta, AOR
Mr. Ranjeet Kumar Singh, Adv.
Mr. Deval N Modi, Adv.
Mr. Shiwang Srivastava, Adv.**

**For Respondent(s) : Mr. Apoorv Shukla, AOR
Ms. Prabhleen A. Shukla, Adv.
Ms. Ilashri Gaur, 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.
3. Pending application(s), if any, shall stand disposed of.

(MANIK KUMAR) (SUDHIR KUMAR SHARMA)
SENIOR PERSONAL ASSISTANT COURT MASTER (NSH)
(signed order is placed on the file)