



IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. \_\_\_\_\_ OF 2026  
(@ SLP(CRL.) No. 7004/2026)

BUNTY APPELLANT(S)

VERSUS

STATE OF RAJASTHAN RESPONDENT(S)

O R D E R

1. Leave granted.
2. We have heard the learned counsel appearing for the appellant and the learned counsel appearing for the State.
3. The appellant was convicted by the Trial Court for the offences punishable under Sections 3/4(2) of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 and sentenced to undergo rigorous imprisonment for a period of 20 years.
4. Aggrieved by the same, the appellant preferred a criminal appeal challenging his conviction before the High Court. The appellant then filed

an application seeking suspension of sentence during the pendency of his appeal, which has been dismissed by the High Court vide the impugned order. Hence, the present appeal has been filed.

5. The learned counsel appearing for the appellant submitted that there is a serious doubt over the age of the victim, while the appellant was only 20 years old. He has already been in custody for a period of one year and seven months.
6. Though the appeal is opposed by the learned counsel appearing for the respondent, the fact remains that the appellant was 20 years old and there is a dispute over the age of the victim.
7. Taking note of the above, along with the period of incarceration undergone, we are inclined to set aside the impugned order and suspend the sentence of the appellant till the disposal of the criminal appeal pending before the High Court and grant bail to the appellant.
8. Accordingly, the impugned order stands set aside, the appellant's sentence stands suspended during the pendency of the appeal and the appellant shall be released on bail, subject to

the terms and conditions to the satisfaction of the Trial Court, unless he is required in any other case

9. The appeal is allowed, accordingly.
10. Pending application(s), if any, shall stand disposed of.

.....J.  
[M.M. SUNDRESH]

.....J.  
[NONGMEIKAPAM KOTISWAR SINGH]

NEW DELHI;  
18<sup>th</sup> MAY, 2026

ITEM NO.10

COURT NO.5

SECTION II-D

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). 7004/2026

[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order  
dated 03-11-2025 in SBCRMISOSAA No. 800/2025 in  
Crl. A. No.980/2025 passed by the High Court of  
Judicature for Rajasthan at Jaipur]

BUNTY

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

STATE OF RAJASTHAN

Respondent(s)

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

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE M.M. SUNDRESH  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE NONGMEIKAPAM KOTISWAR SINGH

For Petitioner(s) Mr. Md. Ali, AOR  
Ms. Shalu, Adv.  
Mr. Hakam Ali, Adv.

For Respondent(s) Mr. Divyank Panwar, Adv.  
Mr. Saurabh Rajpal, Adv.  
Ms. Nidhi Jaswal, AOR

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

Leave granted.

The appeal is allowed in terms of the signed order.

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

(SWETA BALODI) (POONAM VAID)  
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS ASSISTANT REGISTRAR  
(Signed order is placed on the file)