



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

CRIMINAL APPEAL NO.1263 OF 2025
(Arising out of S.L.P.(Criminal) No.14646 of 2024)

ARUN PATI TRIPATHI **... APPELLANT(S)**

VS.

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

WITH

CRIMINAL APPEAL NO.1264 OF 2025
(Arising out of S.L.P.(Criminal) No.18386 of 2024)

CRIMINAL APPEAL NO.1265 OF 2025
(Arising out of S.L.P.(Criminal) No.17645 of 2024)

CRIMINAL APPEAL NO.1266 OF 2025
(Arising out of S.L.P.(Criminal) No.298 of 2025)

O R D E R

Leave granted.

**Heard the learned senior counsel appearing for the
appellant and the learned senior counsel appearing for
the respondent-State of Chhattisgarh.**

**Criminal Appeal arising out of
SLP(Criminal)No.14646 of 2024**

**The appellant is being prosecuted for the various
offences punishable under Sections 420, 467, 468, 471,**

120-B of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 and Sections 7 and 12 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988. The appellant is in custody for approximately 11 months. This Court's order dated 12th December, 2024 reads thus:

"The petitioner has undergone incarceration for a period of 8 months in respect of the present First Information Report. Three charge-sheets have already been filed. Looking to the offences against the petitioner, normally he would be entitled to the bail. However, considering what is stated in the counter affidavit, we deem it appropriate to grant a reasonable time to the respondent-State to complete the investigation so that possibility, if any, of the petitioner tampering with the investigation is ruled out.

As three charge-sheets have already been filed in which there are more than 300 witnesses cited and as charges can be framed only after the final charge-sheet is filed, the trial is not likely to even commence in near future.

Only with a view to afford an opportunity to the respondent to complete the investigation, list the petition on 21st February, 2025."

In fact what is stated in that order makes out a case for grant of bail, as there is no possibility of trial commencing in near future.

The learned senior counsel appearing for the respondent-State submitted that still further time is required for completing the investigation. Considering the observations made by us in the aforesaid order, the appellant is entitled to be enlarged on bail.

However, to ensure that the investigation is not affected in any manner, we direct that the appellant shall be enlarged on bail on 10th April, 2025 subject to appropriate terms and conditions fixed by the concerned Sessions Court. However, apart from the terms and conditions which may be fixed by the Sessions Court, the following conditions shall be incorporated:

- a) The appellant shall surrender his passport, if he is holding a passport, with the Investigating Officer;
- b) He shall report to the Investigating Officer every day at 10.00 a.m; and
- c) Till the charge-sheet is filed, he will continue to cooperate with the Investigating Officer for investigation.

For passing an order of granting bail, the appellant shall be produced before the appropriate Sessions Court on 10th April, 2025. The Sessions Court

shall enlarge the appellant on bail on appropriate terms and conditions including the aforesaid terms and conditions.

The appeal is accordingly allowed.

Criminal Appeal arising out of
SLP(Criminal)No.18386 of 2024

Leave granted.

The learned senior counsel appearing for the respondent-State submitted that the investigation as regards the appellant is complete. He, therefore, submits that the appellant can be enlarged on bail, subject to stringent terms and conditions.

For that purpose, the appellant shall be produced before the concerned Sessions Court within a maximum period of ten days from today. The Sessions Court shall enlarge the appellant on appropriate terms and conditions including the condition of surrender of passport, if any, to the Investigating Officer and cooperating for investigation as and when called upon to do so.

The appeal is accordingly allowed.

Criminal Appeal arising out of
SLP(Criminal)No.17645 of 2024

Leave granted.

Heard the learned senior counsel appearing for the appellant and the learned senior counsel appearing for the respondent-State of Chhattisgarh.

The appellant is being prosecuted for the various offences punishable under Sections 420, 467, 468, 471, 120-B of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 and Sections 7 and 12 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988. The appellant is in custody for approximately 8 months.

However, to ensure that the investigation is not affected in any manner, we direct that the appellant shall be enlarged on bail on 10th April, 2025 subject to appropriate terms and conditions fixed by the concerned Sessions Court. However, apart from the usual terms and conditions which may be fixed by the Sessions Court, the following conditions shall be incorporated:

- a) The appellant shall deposit his passport, if he is holding a passport, with the Investigating Officer;
- b) He shall report to the Investigating Officer every day at 10.00 a.m; and
- c) Till the charge-sheet is filed, he will continue to cooperate with the Investigating Officer for investigation.

For passing an order of granting bail, the appellant shall be produced before the appropriate Sessions Court on 10th April, 2025. The Sessions Court

shall enlarge the appellant on bail on appropriate terms and conditions including the aforesaid terms and conditions.

The appeal is accordingly allowed.

Criminal Appeal arising out of
SLP(Criminal)No.298 of 2025

Leave granted.

The learned senior counsel appearing for the respondent-State submitted that the investigation as regards the appellant is complete. He, therefore, submits that the appellant can be enlarged on bail, subject to stringent terms and conditions.

For that purpose, the appellant shall be produced before the concerned Sessions Court within a maximum period of ten days from today. The Sessions Court shall enlarge the appellant on appropriate terms and conditions including the condition of surrendering of passport, if any, to the Investigating Officer and cooperating for investigation as and when called upon to do so.

The appeal is accordingly allowed.

.....J.
(ABHAY S.OKA)

.....J.
(UJJAL BHUYAN)

NEW DELHI;
March 07, 2025

ITEM NO.2

COURT NO.4

SECTION II-C

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 (Cr1.) No(s). 14646/2024

[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 30-09-2024 in MCRC No. 5081/2024 passed by the High Court of Chhatisgarh at Bilaspur]

ARUN PATI TRIPATHI

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

STATE OF CHHATTISGARH

Respondent(s)

(IA No. 287541/2024 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.
IA No. 287386/2024 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.
IA No. 272750/2024 - PERMISSION TO FILE ADDITIONAL
DOCUMENTS/FACTS/ANNEXURES
IA No. 255394/2024 - PERMISSION TO FILE ADDITIONAL
DOCUMENTS/FACTS/ANNEXURES
IA No. 243714/2024 - PERMISSION TO FILE ADDITIONAL
DOCUMENTS/FACTS/ANNEXURES)

WITH SLP(Cr1) No. 18386/2024

SLP(Cr1) No. 17659/2024

(IA No. 46229/2025 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.
IA No. 24318/2025 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.
IA No. 24243/2025 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.
IA No. 24232/2025 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.
IA No. 24310/2025 - PERMISSION TO FILE ADDITIONAL
DOCUMENTS/FACTS/ANNEXURES)

SLP(Cr1) No. 17645/2024

(IA No. 24409/2025 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.
IA No. 291188/2024 - PERMISSION TO FILE ADDITIONAL
DOCUMENTS/FACTS/ANNEXURES)

SLP(Cr1) No. 298/2025

SLP(Cr1) No. 433/2025

(IA No. 49242/2025 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.)

Date : 07-03-2025 These matters were called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

**HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ABHAY S. OKA
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE UJJAL BHUYAN**

For Petitioner(s) :

**Mr. Siddharth Aggarwal, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Manohar Pratap, AOR
Mr. Shashank Mishra, Adv.
Ms. Arsiya Ghose, Adv.**

**Ms. Meenakshi Arora, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Shishir Prakash, Adv.
Ms. Karuna Krishan Thareja, Adv.
Mr. Mohit D. Ram, AOR
Ms. Nayan Gupta, Adv.
Mr. Anubhav Sharma, Adv.
Ms. Nanakey Kalra, Adv.**

**Mr. Siddhartha Dave, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Meenakshi Arora, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Arshdeep Singh Khurana, Adv.
Mr. Malak Manish Bhatt, AOR
Ms. Neeha Nagpal, Adv.
Mr. Harsh Srivastava, Adv.
Mr. Sidak Anand, Adv.
Mr. Chetan Nagpal, Adv.**

For Respondent(s) :

**Mr. Mahesh Jethmalani, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Vivek Sharma, A.A.G.
Mr. Ravi Sharma, D.A.G.
Mr. Apoorv Shukla, AOR
Ms. Mugdha Pande, Adv.
Ms. Prabhleen A. Shukla, Adv.
Mr. Vaibhav Thaledi, Adv.**

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

SLP(Criminal)No.14646/2024

Leave granted.

The appeal is allowed in terms of the signed order.

The appellant shall be enlarged on bail on 10th April, 2025 subject to appropriate terms and conditions fixed by the concerned Sessions Court.

Pending application also stands disposed of.

SLP(Cr1) No. 18386/2024

Leave granted.

The appeal is allowed in terms of the signed order.

The appellant shall be produced before the concerned Sessions Court within a maximum period of ten days from today. The Sessions Court shall enlarge the appellant on appropriate terms and conditions including the condition of surrendering of passport, if any, to the Investigating Officer and cooperating for investigation as and when called upon to do so.

Pending application also stands disposed of.

SLP(Cr1) No. 17659/2024

List on 8th April, 2025 along with SLP(Criminal)Nos.6323-6324 of 2020.

SLP(Cr1) No. 17645/2024

Leave granted.

The appeal is allowed in terms of the signed order.

The appellant shall be enlarged on bail on 10th April, 2025 subject to appropriate terms and conditions fixed by the concerned Sessions Court.

Pending application also stands disposed of.

SLP(Cr1) No. 298/2025

Leave granted.

The appeal is allowed in terms of the signed order.

The appellant shall be produced before the concerned Sessions Court within a maximum period of ten days from today. The Sessions Court shall enlarge the appellant on appropriate terms and conditions including the condition of surrendering of passport, if any, to the Investigating Officer and cooperating for investigation as and when called upon to do so.

Pending application also stands disposed of.

SLP(Cr1) No. 433/2025

To enable the respondent-State of Chhattisgarh to file further material on record against the petitioner, list on 28th March, 2025.

(ANITA MALHOTRA)

AR-CUM-PS

(Signed order in SLP(Cr1.)No.14646/2024 etc. is placed on the file.)

(AVGV RAMU)

COURT MASTER