

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA AT ERNAKULAM
PRESENT
THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE RAJA VIJAYARAGHAVAN V
&
THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE K. V. JAYAKUMAR**

Monday, the 2nd day of March 2026 / 11th Phalgun, 1947

CRL.A NO.272 OF 2026

**SC NO.508/2020 OF THE ADDITIONAL DISTRICT AND SESSIONS COURT, TALIPARAMBA
APPELLANTS/ACCUSED NO.1:**

SARANYA VALSARAJ, AGED 27 YEARS, W/O.PRANAV, KODUVALLY HOUSE, NEAR
KURUMBA BHAGAVATHI TEMPLE, THAYYIL, KANNUR, NOW UNDERGOING
IMPRISONMENT AS F.C.NO.2/2026, WOMEN PRISON KANNUR, KANNUR
DISTRICT, PIN - 670004.

RESPONDENTS/PROSECUTION:

STATE OF KERALA
EPRESENTED BY PUBLIC PROSECUTOR,
HIGH COURT OF KERALA,
ERNAKULAM, PIN - 682031.

This Criminal appeal having come up for orders on 02.03.2026, upon perusing the appeal and upon hearing the arguments of M/S.MANJU ANTONY, R.ANAS MUHAMMED SHAMNAD, JOSEPH CHACKO, P.DHANYA, R.AVINASH, BENISHA CHANDHNI, Advocates for the appellant and of the PUBLIC PROSECUTOR for the respondent, the court passed the following:

P.T.O.

**RAJA VIJAYARAGHAVAN V.,
&
K.V. JAYAKUMAR, JJ.**

CrI.A. No. 272 of 2026

Dated this the 02nd day of March, 2026

ORDER

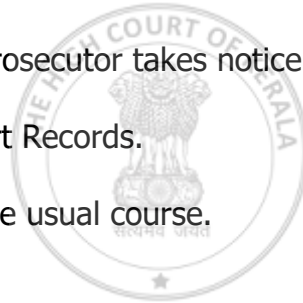
Raja Vijayaraghavan V., J.

Admit.

The learned Public Prosecutor takes notice for the respondent.

Call for the Trial Court Records.

Post for hearing in the usual course.



CrI.M.A. No. 1 of 2026

This is an application seeking suspension of sentence.

The learned Public Prosecutor seeks an adjournment to get instructions and to file an objection.

CrI.A. No. 272 of 2026

We find that in the case on hand, the prosecution allegation is that the appellant committed the murder of her breastfeeding child on 17.02.2020 at 02.40 a.m.

2. Under Rule 131 of the Kerala Criminal Rules of Practice, 1982, in all cases where women are convicted for the murder of their infant children, a reference shall be made through the High Court to the Government with an expression by the Sessions Judge of his opinion as to the propriety or otherwise of reducing the sentence. Every such reference is to be accompanied by copies of the material papers on record.

3. In **State of Kerala v. Salini**¹, directions for compliance of Rule 131 of the Rules were also issued by a Full Bench of this Court.

4. It does not appear from the judgment that the learned Sessions Judge has furnished his opinion in terms of Rule 131 of the Rules for the purpose of forwarding it to the Government.

5. The Registry is directed to get a report from the learned Sessions Judge as to whether an opinion in terms of Rule 131 of the Rules has been forwarded to this Court for the purpose of forwarding it to the Government.

Post on 24.03.2026

Sd/-
**RAJA VIJAYARAGHAVAN V,
JUDGE**

Sd/-
**K.V. JAYAKUMAR,
JUDGE**

APM

¹ 2010 (2) KHC 145