



ITEM NO.9

COURT NO.1

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 (Crl.)
No(s).6457/2026

[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated
10-03-2026 in MCRC No.10422/2025 passed by the High Court
of Chhattisgarh at Bilaspur]

NIRANJAN DAS

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

STATE OF CHHATTISGARH

Respondent(s)

IA No. 110041/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE
IMPUGNED JUDGMENT, IA No. 110043/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM
FILING O.T.

WITH

SLP(Crl) No. 6562/2026 (II-C)
IA No. 111910/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE
IMPUGNED JUDGMENT, IA No. 111912/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM
FILING O.T.

Date : 25-05-2026 These matters were called on for
hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JOYMALYA BAGCHI
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VIPUL M. PANCHOLI

For Petitioner(s) :Ms. Meenakshi Arora, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Arshdeep Singh Khurana, Adv.
Mr. Manohar Pratap, AOR
Mr. Harsh Srivastava, Adv.
Mr. Peeyush Bhatia
Mr. Chetan Nagpal, Adv.
Mr. Siddhant Kohli, AOR
Mr. Kaustabh Bhattacharjee, Adv.

For Respondent(s) :Mr. Anil Kaushik, A.S.G.

Mr. Zoheb Hussain, Adv.
Mr. Arkaj Kumar/, Adv.
Ms. Vidushi Pandey, Adv.
Mr. Animesh Upadhyay, Adv.
Mr. Arvind Kumar Sharma, AOR

Mr. Ravi Sharma, AAG
Mr. Apoorv Shukla, AOR
Ms. Prabhleen A. Shukla, Adv.
Mr. Praphull Kumar, Adv.
Ms. Ilashi Gaur, Adv.

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

SLP(CrL.) No(s).6457/2026

1. The petitioner seeks enlargement on bail in FIR No.04/2024 lodged by the Economic Offences Wing & Anti-Corruption Bureau, Raipur, under Sections 420, 467, 468, 471 and 120B of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 and Sections 7 & 12 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988. The petitioner was the Secretary, Excise Department, and it appears that he was subsequently appointed as Excise Commissioner, who is said to have control over the entire process and to have been complicit in the formulation of a beneficial policy in perpetrating the alleged crime. The petitioner was arrested on 18.09.2025. We are informed by the learned Additional Solicitor General that the investigation *qua* the petitioner is complete, and the chargesheet against him has already been filed. The investigation in respect of some co-accused is still going on and is likely to conclude soon. The trial, however, is yet to formally commence, and its conclusion will take some time. The co-accused persons of the

petitioner have already been released on bail by this Court or by the High Court through various orders, including the order dated 28.01.2026 passed by this Court in SLP(Crl) No.16406/2024 & other connected matters.

2. Taking into consideration all the attending circumstances, however, without expressing any opinion on merits, the prayer for bail is allowed. The petitioner is directed to be released on bail subject to the same conditions that have already been imposed in the case of the co-accused.

3. The Special Leave Petition is, accordingly, disposed of. Pending applications, if any, stand closed.

SLP(Crl) No. 6562/2026

4. The petitioner seeks enlargement on bail in a case registered by the Directorate of Enforcement through ECIR/RPZO/04/2024 under Sections 3 and 4 of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA). The predicate offence is FIR No.04/2024 dated 17.01.2024 registered by the Anti-Corruption Bureau of the Chhattisgarh State Police for the offences under Sections 420, 467, 468, 471 and 120B of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 and Sections 7 & 12 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988

5. The petitioner was the Secretary, Excise Department and subsequently he was posted as Excise Commissioner. He

is alleged to have control over the entire process and to have been complicit in the formulation of a beneficial policy in perpetrating the alleged crime. The role assigned to the petitioner is, thus, that of the orchestrator, and he is described as one of the kingpins. It is also alleged that the petitioner grossly abused the public office, causing large-scale financial implications to the State Exchequer.

6. The petitioner has been released on bail in the predicated offence by an order of even date passed separately. In the PMLA case, he was arrested on 19.12.2025. There are a total of 9 accused, out of which 8 have already been released on bail in the PMLA case. It is not in dispute that the investigation, qua the petitioner, is complete and a statutory complaint has already been filed against him. We find the list of witnesses and the documents that are likely to be placed for consideration of the Special Judge, and that the conclusion of the trial will take a reasonable long time.

7. Keeping in view the period already spent in custody, the fact that the co-accused have already been released on bail and that the conclusion of the trial will take some time, however, without expressing any opinion on the allegations, we direct the release of the petitioner on bail in the PMLA case also subject to the same conditions that have already been imposed in the case of co-accused.

8. The Special Leave Petition is, accordingly, disposed of. Pending applications, if any, stand closed.

(ARJUN BISHT)
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(PREETHI DILEEP KUMAR)
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR